



Thursday, August 16, 2018

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Council finances take a hit after scheme introduced

# FREE PARKING AT COST - OF £500K

By Richard Guttridge

**DUDLEY** Council's finances have taken a half-a-million pound hit following the introduction of free parking.

Figures show the authority's earnings plunged from around £1.27 million to £725,000 in the space of a year.

Borough leaders introduced two hours' free parking on council-run car parks in a bid to bring more shoppers into town centres and boost businesses. But the move has seen the authority lose out on a substantial chunk of cash.

Figures released following a Freedom of Information request by the Chronicle's sister publication The Express & Star showed the authority made £725,974 from parking charges in 2017/18 – down from £1,276,765 the previous year and £1,329,990 in 2015/16. Money made from parking fines dropped during the 12-month period. The council made £439,568 from penalty charge notices in 2017/18 compared to £543,892 in 2016/17.

## Publicity

Bosses at the Conservative-controlled council accepted they would take a hit financially when launching the offer but insisted it was the right thing to do for shoppers and businesses. However, the move was labelled a 'publicity stunt' by opposition councillor Hilary Bills.

The top streets, where drivers are most likely to be fined, were also revealed with Castle Street in Dudley the borough's parking fine hotspot. Next was High Street, Dudley, followed by High Street, Stourbridge, High Street, Pennett and Stone Street, Dudley.

Council leader Patrick Harley said: "The free parking has reduced income to the council. However introducing free parking was about increasing footfall and boosting trade for our local town centres to help them thrive and not use the motorist as a cash cow."

"We are the only council in the West Midlands to introduce such a scheme, it has been hugely welcomed by both traders and shoppers and we firmly believe it will help to rejuvenate our much-loved high streets."

"I would always advise shoppers wanting longer stays to make use of the two hours' free parking at our town centre car parks. Parking restrictions serve an important purpose in ensuring our roads are safe and free flowing."

## NEXT BIG STEP TO BOOST SHOPPING CENTRE



Shoppers mill around the Next store at intu Merry Hill ready for its opening on Tuesday

RETAIL giant Next has opened one of its largest UK stores at the intu Merry Hill Centre.

Queues formed outside the 75,680 sq ft store ahead of the opening on Tuesday.

Shoppers got their first glimpse inside when it opened its doors at 10am. The store, housing a Lipsy, homeware department and a Costa Coffee, takes the place of the former Sainsbury's site. Next confirmed all staff from

their previous two stores at Merry Hill have been transferred to the new retail outlet with a further nine new jobs being created.

Its unveiling comes as part of intu's commitment to invest more than £100 million into the shopping centre.

Dan Murphy, regional centre director at intu Merry Hill, said: "We are passionate about making intu Merry Hill the best it can be and the opening of this flagship Next store

allows us to provide shoppers with an even better experience when they come through our doors."

Council bosses say they hope the development will help to increase the retail centre's footfall. Brierley Hill ward councillor Zafar Islam said: "Hopefully Next will provide some more jobs and hopefully it will bring some customers into Brierley Hill and more people to Merry Hill."

## COURT

### Driver admits to causing Ellie death

A MOTORIST has admitted causing the death of a young woman who fell from the bonnet of his car as he drove around a supermarket car park.

Ellie Underhill, aged 20, of Shearwater Drive, Brierley Hill, lost her fight for life eight days after the fall from a moving silver Corsa outside the Tesco Extra store in Burnt Tree, Dudley, on Boxing Day 2016.



Luke Hickman, of Wasell Road, Wollscote, Stourbridge, had been accused of her manslaughter but the Crown Prosecution Service has now agreed to allow the charge to lie on file. The 19-year-old also pleaded guilty to dangerous driving a few days later, and to perverting the course of justice.

The police were not made aware of the incident until a week later on the victim's death in Russells Hall Hospital from head injuries.

Three others – 21-year-old Ross Bingham, of Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Elly Phillips, of Seymour Road, Wollscote and Hana Edwards, of Grove Road, Wollscote, both 19 – have admitted conspiracy to pervert the course of justice and were due to be sentenced at Stoke-on-Trent Crown Court on Tuesday.

A family tribute described Ellie as 'a bubbly, lively girl'.

## WARNING

### Alert after £8,000 vitamin tablet con

A WARNING has been issued after a 'vulnerable' resident was conned out of £8,000 by 11 different firms selling vitamin tablets.

Dudley Council's trading standards team said the victim was targeted over a three-year period and paid out thousands.

Councillor Ruth Butterly said: "We want to warn people of the dangers of buying from an unknown source."

## INSIDE

### FROM ROCKER TO SOCCER



PAGE 8

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OPINIONS	6
LETTERS	7
MEMORY LANE	20
LEISURE	22
TV LISTINGS	24/25
PUZZLES	26
MOTORING	32
SPORT	35/36

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# Peek behind scenes for would-be nurses



Lead nurse Sarah Gregory, recruitment and retention lead Kerrie Walters and lead nurse Rebecca Davies at Russells Hall Hospital

ASPIRING nurses can take a glimpse at what the job entails by going behind the scenes of Russells Hall Hospital.

The Dudley hospital is looking for experienced as well as newly registered and student nurses to take on a variety of band five vacancies within the emergency department and coronary care unit.

There are also vascular, medical and surgical vacancies.

The Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust are holding a series of recruitment days, with the next

one taking place in September 19. Interviews and conditional offers will be given on the day.

A Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust spokesman said: "We are looking for experienced and newly registered nurses to work at our trust."

"Tours of our wards and departments will be available as well as free car parking and refreshments."

Registration will begin at 4pm in the clinical education centre on the first floor in the south block of

the hospital. The event is due to last around three hours.

Kerrie Walters, recruitment and retention lead, said: "We regularly hold these events as they give people the opportunity to come and see what it is like to work at the trust and to hear firsthand about everything we have in place to support and develop our staff."

To discuss nursing opportunities at the trust contact Kerrie on 01384 456111 extension 3083, or email Kerrie.walters@nhs.net

# Disqualified driver jailed after hitting pedestrian

A MAN has been jailed for 14 months after admitting causing serious injury to a woman when driving while disqualified. Wolverhampton Crown Court heard Brodwen Partridge was badly hurt following a collision with a Vauxhall Zafira driven by Wayne Gloster in Bunn's Lane, Dudley, on November 24 last year.

The victim suffered two fractures, including one to her pelvis, and she was in a wheelchair for a few months.

Gloster, 43, of French Road, Dudley, also admitted having no insurance and failing to stop at an earlier hearing.

Prosecuting, Sati Ruck, said: "The victim stepped into the road and got about halfway when she was hit by the car."

"The defendant got out of the vehicle and approached her, before driving off. A witness followed the defendant to a driveway, where he was in a property shouting for a pillow for the victim."

"The witness offered him a lift back, but he said he would walk, but was not seen again."

Defending, Steven Bailey, said: "This is not a man hiding from responsibility of what he has done."

Judge Dean Kershaw sentenced him to 14 months in prison for causing serious injury whilst driving disqualified. He was sentenced for five months for driving while disqualified, to run concurrently, and banned from driving for 67 months.

# Surge in call-outs for air ambulance crew

## We are family – says TV medic



Laura Hickman, left, and Jo Stevens, who cover the Dudley area, and feature in the new series

THE Midlands Air Ambulance attended 23 per cent more missions in the last year, than in the previous year, as well as attending its 50,000th mission in March.

Trauma and accidental incidents rose overall, reaching 1,749, of which 736 were road crashes.

Vehicle collisions were up 20 per cent compared to 2016/17 and the increase in incidents has prompted a call for more support for the service which does not receive any government funding.

Stabbings and violent crime were also responsible for the rise in call-outs – accounting for almost seven per cent of missions throughout the year.

Motorcyclists and horse riders are among the most common victims in need of assistance from air ambulance crews. On average, the Midlands Air Ambulance, which is based at Cosford, near Wolverhampton, now airlifts a biker every three days, and a horse rider every four days.

### Support

And with call-outs rising by nearly a quarter, leaders say the need for the public's support is greater than ever.

Ian Roberts, air operations manager for Midlands Air Ambulance Charity, said: "It's clear from these statistics that the need for the support of the critical care paramedics and doctors on board our helicopters is higher than ever, which is why we are constantly looking to improve our operational and clinical services to ensure we can keep saving lives every day."

"The skilled aircrew, together with state-of-the-art equipment and helicopters, ensure a patient's chances of survival are vastly increased, but in order to stay operational we need to raise in excess of £9 million each year."

"Thankfully, the general public and local businesses across the six counties we cover do an amazing job every year to raise funds for the charity."

A DOCUMENTARY capturing the real-life action of the West Midlands Ambulance Service is back on our TV screens.

Inside the Ambulance is filmed in Dudley and Willenhall by the ambulance crews themselves, using GoPro cameras mounted to crew members and throughout their ambulances so viewers can get a unique perspective of their work.

The 10-episode series, airing on digital TV channel W began on Monday, and features the crews' response to medical emergencies, as well as a number of lighter moments.

Paramedic Laura Hickman, who has featured on the show since the second series, said: "I think it's great, it's a real eye-opener on the different types of jobs we go on on a daily basis. A lot of us do four 12-hour shifts a week so we are a real family."

The documentary shines a light on the trials and tribulations of the ambulance service, Mrs Hickman added: "It's a great show, it shows we are human, some people think we are robotic but we are human. Some jobs affect us but we keep smiling away."

## Last-gasp buyer for Poundworld

POUNDWORLD has been rescued in a last-minute deal – but only a small number of stores are expected to be saved.

Dublin retailing family, the Hendersons, who opened Ireland's original Poundworld store in 1984, have agreed a bid for the UK firm. All of Poundworld's stores are now closed as planned but the family will begin to reopen some after the deal is rubber-stamped. It is not yet known if any of those in the Midlands are affected by the deal.

Banches in Merry Hill, Bloxwich and West Bromwich were in the first round of closures. The remaining shops in the Black Country include two in Wolverhampton, in the Mander Centre and on Birmingham Road, as well as a branch on the Reedswood Retail Park in Walksall.

## Park scheme 'yes'

A NEW classroom facility and climbing wall will be built at Baggeridge Country Park, after new plans were approved.

The plans for the park off Fir Street, in Gospel End, near Sedgley, also include an attached canopy for the classroom, outdoor shelter and storage containers.

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# Merged taxi 'super firm' recruiting 100 drivers

NEW taxi drivers are urgently needed across the Black Country as two companies prepare to merge in a bid to take on Uber.

The firms, 24 7 Cars and ABC Cars, plan to create a 'super firm' of 700 taxis.

Company director of 24 7, Shahzad Ali, said there was a 'greater need and demand' for efficient and reliable taxi service across the Black Country. He said: 'Taxi drivers play a fundamental role in their community, they take the public to hospital appointments, school runs and everything in-between. It is a rewarding.'

## Demand

'As a company, we are investing in the training and development of our drivers and are striving to achieve professional levels. We have also invested in our customer service centre and technology systems to achieve and deliver a world-class service.'

'We are currently doing about 50,000 journeys a week all around the West Midlands. There is enough demand to double that if we get enough drivers.'

24 7 Cars is currently an independently-owned company. But if it merges with ABC Cars, the firm would operate under a new name and base, serving Willenhall, Darlaston, Bilston, Wolverhampton, Bloxwich and Walsall.

## Chamber's advice on Iran sanctions

THE Black Country's biggest business organisation is urging companies worried about new Iran trade sanctions to get in touch for crucial advice.

In the wake of the US re-imposing sanctions, the Black Country Chamber of Commerce is warning affected businesses to contact the organisation before taking any further action.

On Tuesday, President Trump announced he would re-impose a trade embargo on Iran after withdrawing from a 2015 deal that lifted sanctions in return for a halt on Iran's nuclear programme.

Any firm affected by the sanctions or seeking information can contact Gerald La Touche, International trade adviser at the chamber, on 01902 912318.

## Relatives sought

BLACK Country Coroner's Court wants to trace relatives of 86-year-old Doris Bradbury, who died at her Kingswinford home in Moss Grove on August 5. Call Wendy Plummer at the coroner's office on 0121 569 7200.

# Comic boosts funeral funds appeal

THOUSANDS of pounds have been donated to pay for the funeral costs of a much-loved teenager who died after a swimming tragedy while on holiday.

Following the intervention of comedian Jason Manford, the online fundraiser for 16-year-old Blake Ward, from Dudley, has reached in excess of £12,000, more than double its initial £5,000 target.

The comic, who heads a group of anonymous donors dubbed the Charity Ninjas, shared the story of the Hillcrest School and Community College student's death on his Facebook page.

Before the comedian became involved, the total on the GoFundMe page was at £1,860, but has since shot up to a total of £12,268.

One of the biggest donations has come from the

Year 11 pupil's former school friends who organised a charity football match at The Portway in Oldbury.

Scores of people attended – including one of Blake's teachers, who interrupted a family holiday to be there.

The match realised £943 through a bucket collection, tombola and cake sale.

His girlfriend Stephanie Ray, who set up the GoFundMe page, said: 'I'm just speechless, I can't thank you all enough. It's brought me to tears to see so many people come and watch the match.'

The teenager, who had moved to live in Wolverhampton six months ago, died in hospital four days after being rescued from the sea at Tywyn North beach, west Wales, after getting into difficulties.

Blake's sister Libbie Sullivan also set up the GoFundMe page with the aim of raising £5,000 for his funeral. The excess cash will be donated to the air ambulance and sea rescue charities. Last Wednesday, family and friends gathered at Green Park, Kates Hill, Dudley, where Blake used to play football, for a balloon release in celebration of his life.

Hillcrest School principal April Garratt said: 'Blake was a wonderful young man. It is such a tragedy when a young life is taken especially in these circumstances.'

She said that staff would be on hand to support pupils on August 23 when they turned up to collect their GCSE results.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Witness plea after race attack in pub

POLICE are appealing for witnesses following an assault at a pub near Stourbridge. Investigating officers say they believe the attack, on July 28, was racially motivated.

It is believed a man in his 40s was verbally abused and assaulted inside the toilets of a pub in Bromsgrove Road, Hagley between 8.30pm and 11pm. The victim was not injured.

The suspects are described as four or five white men, aged between 20 and 24. One was 5ft 10in and of an average build, one was wearing a T-shirt and blue jeans, and one was wearing a green/grey T-shirt. It is believed he may have later been picked up in a white VW Beetle.

Witnesses should call 101, quoting incident reference 22/66906/18.

### £900 penalty over false puppy claim

A MAN who falsely claimed that a pedigree German Shepherd puppy was Kennel Club registered has been ordered to pay more than £900.

The prosecution was brought by Dudley Council Trading Standards after Martin Lloyd, aged 27, sold the puppy to a Halesowen couple for £860.

Lloyd, of Stretton Road, Willenhall, admitted engaging in a commercial practice which was a misleading action. He was given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £460 in compensation, £500 costs and a victim surcharge of £20.

### Pale ale created for football club

A NEW beer has been created for Halesowen Town FC as it kicks off the new season.

Yeltz Pale Ale is a 3.8 per cent brew from Blackheath's Fixed Wheel Brewery. It has been named in recognition of the club's nickname, The Yeltz.

The club, which plays in the Evo-Stik League Premier Division Central, began the season with a 1-0 win over Lowestoft Town last weekend, and will have the new ale on sale at its bar at the ground at The Grove.

### Experience colour in gallery exhibition

A NEW exhibition called Experience Colour is coming to a gallery in Stourbridge.

The exhibition runs at the arts centre at Ruskin Glass Centre at the Glasshouse Arts Centre in Wollaston Road from August 29 to October 14.

It will focus on the science and art of colour and include large installations and hands-on experiments.

Admission will be £5 with under-12s going free.

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## Number of weekly pub closures static

THE number of pubs closing every week has remained at around 18 amid evidence that more people are choosing to drink at home, according to a new report.

There were 476 closures in the first six months of the year across the UK, 13 more than in the last six months of 2017, said the Campaign for Real Ale (Camra).

There were more than 60 pub closures a week in the North West and South East this year, with more than 50 in Greater London and the South West. Camra also reported that four out of five people had experienced a local pub closure in the past five years.

## Most positive over dealings with GP

MOST patients are positive about their GP experience, a survey of almost 760,000 people has found.

Almost half of respondents described their overall experience of their practice as very good, while 37.6 per cent said it was fairly good.

Two thirds of patients who asked for a same-day appointment got one, the GP Patient Survey 2018 found, and 61.6 per cent managed to see their GP when they wanted or sooner.

However, around a third of patients who wanted to see a GP but found their practice was closed said they ended up going to A&E.

## House price rise bucks forecasts

HOUSE prices grew faster than expected in July, hitting a record high as pressure on household finances begins to ease, according to Halifax.

The annual pace of house price growth rose 3.3 per cent, smashing economists' forecasts for a 2.6 per cent increase, and helping average prices hit a new record high of £230,280.

The figure compares with the 1.8 per cent rise recorded in June and represents the largest increase since last November.

## Shortage of skilled workers now worse

THE shortage of skilled workers is getting worse, with most organisations now having problems recruiting suitably qualified staff.

The recruitment process is also taking longer, making it more expensive for firms to hire employees, say the Open University. Three out of five business leaders believe skills shortages have worsened over the past year.

# Institute HQ moves to training centre

THE Institute of Cast Metal Engineers has moved its headquarters to the new National Foundry Training Centre in Dudley Port, Tipton.

The ICME is the professional body for people involved in the casting, foundry pattern-making and associated industries.

The National Foundry Training Centre is one of the Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills 'spokes' which recently opened adjacent to one of the Thomas Dudley foundry sites. The ECMS is a new employer-led training facility for the Black Coun-

try, designed to enhance productivity by providing specialist training and helping to close skills gaps identified by employers.

The project is a £12 million collaboration between the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership, University of Wolverhampton, Dudley College, Cast Metals Federation, Confederation of British Metal-forming and the ICME.

The ECMS Hub will be based at the university's £100 million Springfield Campus and will deliver skills training through short courses and

apprenticeships at three spoke locations – Tipton, Aldridge and Dudley. Trevor Ayre, national president of ICME, said: "It's an ideal base for ICME to be located – we now have a facility that feels like the centre of the UK foundry industry and a place where members and students can have access to specialised training facilities."

Ian Fitzpatrick, chief executive at the Elite Centre for Manufacturing Skills, added: "We are delighted to welcome ICME to its new home at the National Foundry Training Centre."

## Works now under way to upgrade play area

A £55,000 play area will be built at a park in Kingswinford.

Work has started on the new facility in Cot Lane, and it is hoped it will be finished before the end of the school summer holidays.

Existing equipment, which is outdated, is being replaced and safer surfaces installed. Equipment will include monkey bars, a roundabout, slide, seesaw, rope nets and swings.

It will be designed so it is more accessible for wheelchair users and people with mobility issues.

Emma Jones, chairman of the Friends of Cot Lane Park, said: "We are really excited about the new park equipment and what it has to offer all the children in the community."

The current park has become very outdated and we wanted to provide a safe and fun place for children to play.

"I would personally like to thank all the members of the committee for their hard work, dedication and commitment over the last two years. Without their support none of this would have been possible."

Dudley Council leader Patrick Harley added: "I am delighted that the council has been able to support the Friends group at Cot Lane to make this project a reality. As this park is in my ward, I know only too well how much this new equipment is desperately needed and how much it will be welcomed by children and parents in Kingswinford."

The project is funded by Ibstock Enovert Trust, Enovert Community Trust, Dudley Council and funds allocated by the local community forum.

## Bus and Metro interchange plan

A PLANNING application for a 'world class' transport interchange in Dudley is to be lodged in the coming weeks.

The interchange will provide stops for bus services as well as the Midland Metro. It will replace the town's current bus station in Fisher Street, and is expected to open in 2022, in time for Metro services.

Transport of West Midlands is behind the project and a spokesman said: "We expect to submit a planning application for the redevelopment of Dudley Interchange either later this month or early September."

"The project needs to be synchronised with the construction of the Midland Metro tram extension which on current projections would mean a completion date of around 2022."

# Getting tough on bikers who rip up green spaces

Report by Megan Archer

**COUNCIL** chiefs are slamming the brakes on motorbikes and quad bikes being driven irresponsibly on green spaces in Dudley.

Dudley Council are implementing a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) across the borough.

The order will now give police and local authority officers more powers to tackle what has become a growing problem. It comes after numerous complaints from residents about noise nuisance, damage to land and fear of injury.

Councillor Karen Shakespeare, cabinet member for environmental services, said: "We have received a very positive response from our consultation and we now intend to implement the order. Our message is clear, we will not tolerate anti-social behaviour on our green spaces.

### Tranquillity

"This initiative gives the police and council officers new enforcement powers to crack down on people who spoil the tranquillity of green spaces and risk the safety of others by irresponsibly using motor vehicles."

Problems have been reported at Fens Pool Nature Reserve, Mullet Park, Barrack Hill Nature Reserve, Russells Hall, Buckpool Nature Reserve, Woodside Park and Marsh Park. Other areas covered by the PSPO include green spaces at Milking Bank, Pensnett Technical College, Lapwood Avenue/Ketley Fields, and Pheasant Street will also be covered.

The order will give police and authorised council officers the power to issue fines of up to £100 for those caught using an unauthorised motorised vehicle on the named areas. Failure to pay may lead to prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000. The vehicles could also be confiscated.

To report an incident contact Dudley Council Plus on 0300 555 2345.

## Zoo in hot pursuit of Sandy Claus



Assistant curator Jay Haywood launches Dudley Zoo's search for the perfect Father Christmas

IT might be the height of the summer holidays – but bosses at Dudley Zoo are already in hot pursuit of Father Christmas.

The zoo has launched its search for a Santa to star in the busy Winter Wonderland grotto from December 1 to 24.

Andrea Hales, marketing manager at Dudley Zoological Gardens, said: "Although it's still sunny August, we're launching a summer search for a Santa to join our hugely popular grotto. We'll supply the uniform but it would be wonderful if he had his own white beard."

Interested Santas – with or without beards – should

apply before August 31, and include a CV and any festive photos if they have taken on the role previously.

Applications can be sent to marketing@dudleyzoo.org.uk or Marketing Department, Dudley Zoological Gardens, Castle Hill, Dudley, DY1 4QF.

Meanwhile, the zoo's resident giant anteater Romy had to box clever to find her third birthday treats. She devoured stuffed cardboard boxes filled with scrunchup newspaper, dried mealworms and bottles of yoghurt.

Romy, who came to the zoo from the Czech Republic two years ago, was joined by pal Bubbles, who arrived in June.

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# Race boost is a £5,000 quacker for the hospice

A CHARITY canal rubber duck race and fun day helped raise £5,000 for the Mary Stevens Hospice in Stourbridge.

Hundreds of ducks were launched at the second annual Black Country Duck Race, with more than 1,000 people cheering them on at the Tenth Lock Pub, in Delph Road.

The event helped to raise £5,000 for the hospice with funds coming from duck entries and attractions at the fun day.

Canalside Tackle sponsored the purchase of all 600 ducks which were entered into the race.

Chere Griffin, landlord of the Tenth Lock, said she was delighted by the event's success. She added: "We love the hospice, and it is our privilege to put events on like this for our community in support of families who are going through such difficult times."

"To know how much we've raised, and more importantly what that money will make possible, is actually quite overwhelming and we can only say thank you to everyone who has made it possible, as it is always a team effort."

Amanda Bowen, deputy head of fundraising and lottery at the hospice, said: "Watching thousands of people stream through the pub to line the canal in support of their local hospice is a memory I personally will treasure for the rest of my life."

## Taste of working life for children

A SIGHT-LOSS charity invited the children of its workforce in to experience a day in the life of their parents.

The Beacon Centre For The Blind at Sedgley saw employees' children arrive at its headquarters to get a taste of life at work. Youngsters got to know the roles of their parents and created their own personalised craft items in the Fab Lab.

The Lab, which aims to help those living with sight loss to learn digital and design skills, opened last month.

Matt Harrison, technology innovation manager at Beacon, said: "The kids were amazed to see the 3D printer and laser cutter in action."

To donate to the Beacon Centre, please visit [beacon.vision.org/done-to-beacon](http://beacon.vision.org/done-to-beacon) or call 01902 880111.

## Café open longer

A POPULAR café at the picturesque Himley Hall and park has extended its opening hours over the summer months. The coffee lounge is open all week from 11am to 4pm until the beginning of September."

# Truckman boost exports via Swiss link



Truckman managers Phil Smith, left, and James Zaremba

DUDLEY-BASED Truckman, the UK's leading manufacturer and supplier of hardtops for pick-up trucks, is increasing its export activity after establishing a long-term relationship with a Swiss vehicle accessory supplier.

Casco Accessories has been serving the Swiss pick-up market for five years enjoying rapid growth and recently expanded into the larger Italian market where the 4x4 vehicles are growing in popularity among both leisure and commercial users.

Having first imported hardtops

from Holland, Casco Accessories has now struck the agreement with Truckman for a selection of its luxury and robust commercial canopies to meet a growing demand from customers. It is now successfully supplying Fiat, Ford, Isuzu, Mitsubishi and Nissan dealers in Switzerland with Truckman hardtops and aims for similar growth in Italy.

From its base in northern Switzerland, Casco Accessories stocks Truckman hardtops which are all designed in the UK. Customers cover a cross-section of industries including

agriculture and construction, with the majority being private vehicle owners who use their pick-ups for business and leisure activities.

While the UK remains the core market for Truckman, about 10 per cent of its business comes from international sales and the Black Country company aims to increase its export activity through relationships with companies such as Casco Accessories.

In addition to the Swiss and Italian markets through Casco, Truckman is also targeting France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Woman talked down off bridge

A BUSY route was closed in both directions as a woman threatened to jump from a bridge.

Emergency services were called to a bridge over Duncan Edwards Way, also known as the Dudley Bypass, at around 8pm on August 7.

Police said the distressed woman was threatening to jump but after two hours was taken to safety. The bypass was closed in both directions as a precaution.

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman Claire Brown said: "The woman was led to safety and taken to hospital for treatment. There were no serious injuries."

### A third of small firms back Brexit

A THIRD of small and medium-sized firms (SMEs) in the West Midlands say they think Brexit will have a positive outcome for them.

It matched the 33 per cent nationally who told OCO Global, a specialist provider of international trade and investment services, that they think it will have a positive impact on their business.

Also 22 per cent of West Midlands SMEs said they had already felt a positive impact since the EU referendum vote compared to 32 per cent nationally.

### Arrest made after huge factory fire

A 27-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of arson following a factory fire in Brierley Hill.

Up to nine fire crews tackled the blaze at its height after it broke out in Hurst Business Park, Navigation Drive, at around 4.40am on Friday.

A police spokesman said: "A 27-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of arson and he remains in police custody."

"Investigations continue and anyone with information is asked to call police on 101, quoting log 320 of 10 August."

### Family drama as Little Theatre back on boards

DUDLEY Little Theatre returns to the boards next month with Rosamunde Pilcher's *The Shell Seekers*, which is being staged at Netherton Arts Centre from September 19 to 22.

Tickets are available from G Flavell Butchers in Cradley Road, or by calling (01384) 872583.

Also coming up is *The Railway Children, Lovesong* by Abi Morgan and Father Ted writer Graham Linehan's version of *The Ladykillers*.

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# Now is it all change if we moan enough?

ACCORDING to a poll commissioned by that bastion of impartiality People's Vote, an organisation set up to campaign for a second referendum on leaving the EU, about half the population of the UK think it would be a good idea. Who'd have thought it?

As opinion polls go, it sounds about as authoritative as the old Whiskas advert which said eight out of 10 cats preferred their food. Still, they could be on to something. Perhaps it sets a precedent that any result we don't like can be reversed if we moan enough.

The Championship play-off final, for example, was a huge mistake. Villa should clearly have won. Time for a group called People's Final to commission a poll outside Villa Park at, say, 5.45 on a Saturday afternoon.

As for that World Cup semi-final against Croatia... ☐ ☐ ☐

THAT said, if there is one group more fanatical than the EU zealots, it must be militant cyclists.

Not the millions of ordinary people who simply enjoy riding bikes, you understand. While I don't understand the appeal myself, particularly if it means turning up at your destination dripping with sweat and needing a change of clothing, I do recognise that many people do. Each to their own, and all that.

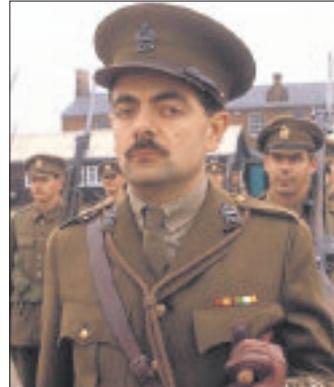
The people I'm talking about are those on a mission to convert the rest of us to their way of thinking. They spend thousands on bizarre clothing, subscribe to all the magazines, and never stop boring the rest of us about their virtuous lifestyle. And for some reason, they view themselves as some kind of marginalised minority group warranting special treatment.

Over the weekend transport minister Jesse Norman announced proposals to update road safety laws following the death last year of Kim Briggs at the hands of cyclist Charlie Alliston. Because dangerous driving laws do not extend to cyclists, the prosecution had to rely on a charge of "wanton and furious driving" under an 1861 act aimed at horse-drawn carriages. As a result, Alliston was let off with an 18-month sentence, and is presumably at liberty once more.

You would think any reasonable person would be in favour of closing this loophole. But after a few hours of rage from the cycling zealots on Twitter the minister issued a timid apology.

I'm not sure which is the most pathetic. The siege mentality of the cycling nuts, or the craven minister who lacked the backbone to stand up to them.

# Boris wades in once again, where others fear to tread



Blackadder's First World War futility – but Amiens was a battle which turned the tide



Boris's burka blast was not as much of a tub-thumping tirade as you might expect



Julian Lory, who was told to do some DIY policing after reporting his tools had been stolen

# Taxing times for pay-up politeness

## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



he is in a class of his own. And if you haven't read his Daily Telegraph column on the burka, then do. After all the fuss and fury, you may expect to find a beer-hall rant, a tub-thumping demand for burkas to be banned. It is exactly the opposite.

JOHNSON'S column is a timely, considered, intelligent and humane plea for Britain not to follow Denmark and France by imposing a ban on all face-coverings. Johnson clearly dislikes such forms of dress - hence his "letter box" jibe - but there is absolutely no way that his column, in an upmarket newspaper, could stir up racial or religious hatred - although some of the hysterical and politically-inspired reactions to it might. The howling-down, the demands for him to be punished are chilling. We are supposed to live in a free country. Some days I barely recognise it.

AND off to the car-accessory showroom where the staff have all been issued with headphones and Britney-style microphones, enabling them to communicate across the store. The result is a weird detachment. The lady at the till is looking at you and talking but she is not talking to you. She is talking to Carl in roof racks & camping and that sweet smile is for him, not you. So when you smile back, she looks at you as though you're mad. One day all these jobs will be done by robots. I don't think we will notice the difference.

WHILE he was busy repairing a roof in a Dev-

on village, Julian Lory had £8,000 worth of tools stolen by burglars. Police advised him to "go door to door" and see if he could "generate a line of inquiry." No surprises there, then. The days are long gone when the constabulary responded to ordinary crimes inflicted on ordinary people. The best Mr Lory can hope for is that one day he'll get a call that goes: "Hi, Julian. It's PC Bloggs here at the local nick. Thing is, we've got a hole in the roof and wondered if you could fix it for us." And Mr Lory will have the exquisite joy of replying: "No. I've got a better idea. Buy a trowel and some nails and a bucket full of mortar and then get yourself a ladder and . . ."

HERE'S something to worry about when the drought goes away. After the discovery of water beneath the surface of Mars, a scientist popped up on telly to stress the absolute necessity of not contaminating Martian microbes with germs from Earth. Fair point. But to be honest I'm more worried about humankind's eternal quest for knowledge resulting in a vial of Martian microbes being brought to Earth - and someone dropping it.

AS any father will tell you, heroism is not part of the job description. But there was one moment in 1990 when I came home from work and presented my four-year-old daughter with something that made me the hero of the hour. I'd been interviewing a pair of North Country comedians and although I'd barely heard of them, my little girl was a huge fan. She still has that autographed photo of the Chuckle Brothers. Barry Chuckle died a few days ago and I bet a lot of 30-somethings shed a tear.

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## TALKING POINT



# Doctor's orders on row over parking

IN reply to Mark Shipp's comments on the parking of emergency vehicles.

To begin with, the parking warden had actually been trained by EuroPark to not give out parking tickets to emergency vehicles so I would say he actually wasn't doing his job properly.

But to be honest, I don't even think that is the point.

Whether you think EuroPark actually trained him this way or he was being a jobsworth is up to you.

Mark 'agreed' with the fact that emergency workers need a drink during a long shift but didn't actually give any solutions to the problem.

Where they parked wasn't ideal but there was actually nowhere else nearby to park.

And on another point, this was private parking, so there are no actual 'laws' pertaining to this.

What I would like to ask Mark is how exactly does he think these hardworking, often self-sacrificing people will be able to drink, eat or even use the toilet if they have nowhere to park?

They may not have been on an emergency call (you don't exactly see a blue light to pick up a sandwich from Tesco's!) but they're always on stand-by for them.

So my question to you is – how would you feel if you called an ambulance for someone you cared about, someone very ill, possibly dying – and it took too long to arrive?

This is the reality of the situation if emergency workers find somewhere 'legal' to park.

If their ambulance is parked 20 minutes away and they have to run back, this loses precious time that they could be treating the patient.

And in some situations, minutes can mean life or death.

Would you really begrudge an ambulance parking on double yellows, would you be willing to run that risk?

Unfortunately these days in the current state of the NHS, a break doesn't necessarily mean a break. If often means ramming a sandwich down your throat as fast as possible and moving on to the next patient.

Our breaks are supposed to be protected but be realistic, are we going to sit down and relax with a cup of tea or down it and do our job?

It's hard being an emergency worker.

Please try to walk a mile in our shoes before you criticise.

We are people, not super humans so please don't begrudge us a quick sandwich in between saving people's lives.

A&E DOCTOR

# Tories put party before country's interests

I too must disagree with Mr Perry. I have numerous friends and relations who voted leave. They are definitely intelligent, some having university degrees and others holding positions of authority.

I do believe, however, that they were let down by Government and were deceived by factions within society. The public were led to believe misconceptions that the UK is powerless against the huge EU bloc. This is completely false! As the second largest economy, we have massive influence, in addition to which we can veto any measures

that we believe to be against our principles or damaging to our economy. If our representatives have failed to use the veto, then we should blame them.

We pay a lot of money for membership, but so do the other 27 members. It all goes into a huge fund from which any EU nation can draw to fund improvements to infrastructure and community projects. Outside the EU, such projects will have to come from our income tax. None of these things were made clear during the referendum.

Taking all this into account, in addition to other disadvantages we might

face, I believe there should be a second referendum. We pay our Government to do what is best for our country, not to concentrate on quelling dissent within a political party.

Knowing the upheaval in every sector of the economy, with unknown long term consequences, the Government could simply withdraw from the process and stay in the EU.

The only good thing, if this turns into a disaster the Tories might never get into Government again.

MICHAEL CLIFF

Wall Heath

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Chronicle Editorial

51-53 Queen Street

Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

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# Iron Maiden tour kicks off with football game

ROCK royalty Steve Harris slipped on his football boots as the Iron Maiden founder flaunted his football skills in the Black Country.

The heavy metal star took part in a special match against Gornal Athletic FC. Fans were left dazzled by the legendary musician's moves when he took to the club's Garden Walk pitch to raise funds for the club. It is the second time Harris, the bassist and primary songwriter, has played there.

The 62-year-old regularly gets sides together to take on local clubs across the world during Iron Maiden's tours.

Club chairman Lee Farrington, said: "It's a big thing to have him down here and it's great to have people giving back to small football clubs in need of support."

## Drink

Grassroots teams are struggling for funds and every little helps. It will help us afloat for another year."

Harris, who founded the heavy metal band in the 1970s, united for the fundraiser with members of Iron Maiden's backroom staff and ex-Scotland international footballer Colin Hendry, who was captain.

The band were in the Midlands to play a gig at the Genting Arena in Birmingham and are currently on a world tour.

The football saw a mixed-age team from the Dudley club compete against an 'Iron Maiden XI', with Harris's supergroup strolling away from the field with a 4-0 win.

Award-winning Harris made time to take snaps with fellow footballers and enjoy a well-earned drink at the end.



Steve Harris from Iron Maiden



Colin Hendry played in the game



The Iron Maiden XI with the players from Gornal Athletic

"He loves his football so we're more than happy to accommodate him."

Gornal Athletic, who play in the West Midlands Regional League, organised the fundraiser ahead of its 2018/19 campaign. Tweeting after the match Iron Maiden said: "A 4-0 win for the mighty Maiden! Thanks Gornal Athletic for a great game."

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# Carer Keeley saves man from choking

A QUICK-THINKING carer put her life-saving skills to the test to stop a man from choking to death.

Keeley Fowkes, aged 22, used her newly-gained emergency first aid skills to the test when she saved Martin Pearson, who was in her care, from choking.

Keeley, who works at Oak House Care Home, in Netherton, was on a short holiday with fellow staff members and two of their service users when disaster struck.

They had gone out for dinner one evening, when Martin started to choke on his food. Keeley's quick reactions helped to save the life of Mr Pearson, who has learning disabilities.

She had only completed her basic life support training, with Endeavour Care Training, weeks before the life-threatening situation. Ms Fowkes, from Halesowen, said: "We were out to dinner, Martin ordered a well-done steak and, after taking a bite, tried to talk, breathing the steak to the back of this throat. Initially we didn't think too much of it and tried to wash it down with water, but he started panicking and his lips turned blue. All the training just came to me in that moment and I was able to perform the techniques we were taught in order to dislodge the food."

"It was very frightening, but I think the adrenaline just kicked in." Mr



Resident Martin Pearson, with carer Keeley Fowkes who saved his life

Pearson, although able to work full-time, depends on the support at the care home.

He said: "I'm just so grateful to Keeley. She knew exactly what to do to help me. I genuinely thought I was going to die."

In recognition for her quick and decisive actions, Keeley was presented

with an award by Endeavour Care Training.

Adam and Dominic Brinton-Wiliams, Oak House owners, said: "It's a privilege knowing you've got staff like Keeley, she's remarkable, and fantastic with our service users."

"And that goes for all our wonderful team, we are very proud indeed."

## Team to block cold calls

**THE power to block cold calls from scammers is in the hands of Dudley residents most at risk.**

As part of a crackdown to wipe out financial cons in the Dudley borough, a scams unit has been set up by the council's Trading Standards.

It is primarily working with vulnerable residents who often find themselves on so-called 'sucker lists' which are used by criminals to identify and prey on their victims. As part of its work the team is going into homes

of vulnerable people who regularly receive cold calls from scammers and installing call blockers temporarily.

This means that every time a call is received, the resident can press a large red button and that number is blocked and unable to call again.

Evidence shows that within a three-month period, the cold calling stops and the potential victim essentially disappears from the 'sucker lists'.

Councillor Ruth Butterly, cabinet member for health and wellbeing, said: "It's a big job but with incentives such as call blockers, we are helping

to prevent older people being targeted. Since the scams unit launched more than five months ago, its staff have already visited more than 50 residents who have been targeted by scammers. "It has recovered more than £17,000 for victims and is investigating cases that amount to at least £350,000 in losses," Councillor Butterly added.

If anyone is concerned that they or someone they know may have fallen victim to financial scams, they should contact the Trading Standards' scams team on 01384 818871 or via trading.standards@dudley.gov.uk

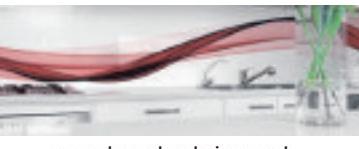
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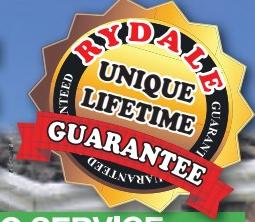
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# 10 Drug abuse deaths soar over decade

ONE person dies from drug abuse in the Black Country every six days, with the number of deaths almost doubling in a decade, shock new figures have revealed.

It is the same in the Stafford borough, Cannock Chase and South Staffordshire, where deaths have trebled.

Figures from the Office for National Statistics show there were 122 deaths in the Black Country which involved illegal drugs or were as a result of drug abuse or dependence. The figures cover the two-year period between 2015-2017 and are up from 73 drug abuse deaths in 2005-2007.

## Budgets

The borough with the highest rate was Walsall, where 5.1 people died from drug abuse per 100,000 population. This compared to 3.7 in Wolverhampton, 3.8 in Sandwell and 3.6 in Dudley.

In Stafford, Cannock Chase and South Staffordshire there were 165 drug abuse deaths in 2015 to 2017, up from 14 in 2005 to 2007. Stafford had the worst rate, 5.9 drug abuse deaths per 100,000 people, followed by Cannock Chase with 4.8. The national rate is 6.4.

The rise in deaths come at a time council budgets are cutting spending on drug rehabilitation services.

## Fancy a pantomime role? Oh yes you do

A STOURBRIDGE-BASED amateur theatre company is looking for actors to join its cast for this year's Christmas pantomime.

A Comedy Theatre Group is looking for actors for Snow White and her friends and a female daytime TV-style presenter.

The group meets Monday evening at Giggill Church Hall, Witton Street, from September 3.

# Cabbie attacked after fearing his passengers wouldn't pay

## Doorstop Buddha under hammer

A RARE Buddha statue used as a doorstop by an elderly couple is expected to sell for 'a spectacular sum' when it goes under the hammer with eight others.

Made from gold and bronze, the nine ornaments were found among 300 other collectables in the home of an elderly London couple.

They were dotted around, hidden in cupboards and sitting on coffee tables – with one used to prop open a door.

The Buddhas come from China and Thailand and are believed to be from the 16th century Ming dynasty.

They will go under the hammer at Stourbridge-based firm Fieldings Auctioneers on September 1.

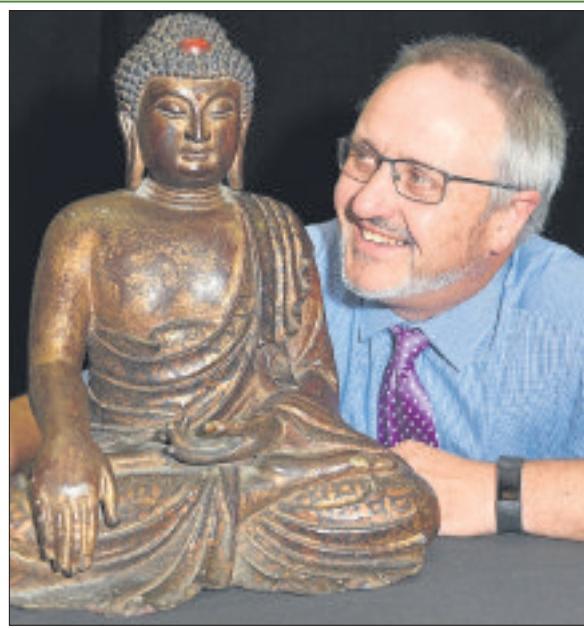
Fieldings' Asian Art expert, Will Farmer, who is also an expert on the BBC's Antiques Roadshow, said: "The couple were collectors and had an amazing life travelling the world picking up hundreds of items."

"Out of these we found these fantastic Asian Buddhas that were spectacularly dotted all over the house."

"The market for Asian art has sky-rocketed in the last 10 years. We expect the highest valued Buddha to fetch between £8,000 to £12,000."

"Because of the rarity of the pieces they're an unknown quantity and could reach spectacular sums."

The money from the auction will go back to the family and the estate, with the auction house dividing the 300 lots between sales in September and October.



Mark Hannam from Fieldings Auctioneers, with one of the buddhas

A FATHER and son who assaulted and racially abused a taxi driver have been handed suspended jail terms. The pair – both called Jason Deathridge – struck at a filling station forecourt where they had allegedly been locked in the stationary cab.

The move came amid fears they were not going to pay the fare, a judge was told, but it was alleged that two of the passengers may have suffered panic attacks.

The two men and three females, two of whom were aged 13 and 14, were picked up from the Hasbury Conservative Club in Halesowen.

Another woman customer had been collected from an address in Brierley Hill, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Taxi driver Tanvir Dad was asked by her to take the group to Blackheath but on the way overheard conversation in the back of the cab that suggested to him the passengers were not going to pay when they reached the destination, said Mrs Sati Ruck, prosecuting.

## Midnight

He decided to drive back to a BP petrol station in Stourbridge Road which was illuminated and covered by CCTV which showed the vehicle was parked for six minutes without anybody getting out.

Meanwhile, another taxi driver stopped to talk with Mr Dad through an open window shortly before the passengers started to get out at around midnight on December 10, 2016, the court was told.

The younger Deathridge, who, like his father, appeared to have been drinking, hurled racial abuse at the driver whom he chased before knocking him to the ground where the victim was kicked several times as the

Report by John Scott

48-year-old father joined in, ending up on top of Mr Dad as others rushed to end the violence. The driver suffered bruising to the back, shoulder and face.

Mrs Ruck concluded: "Jason Deathridge senior accepts that his son was shouting racial abuse and that he then joined his son by taking part in the subsequent incident."

Mr Anthony Cartin, representing the 23-year-old son, who was of previous good character, said: "He is thoroughly ashamed of his actions."

Mr Tom Kenning, defending the father, added: "The passengers were locked in the taxi for six minutes during which the two young women suffered panic attacks and became upset and this appears to have been the catalyst, but it is no excuse."

The father and son, both from Roundhills Road, Hurst Green, Halesowen, each admitted racially aggravated assault. The former was given an 18-month jail sentence suspended for 18 months with 180 hours unpaid work. His son was given a 16-month suspended sentence with 150 hours unpaid work.

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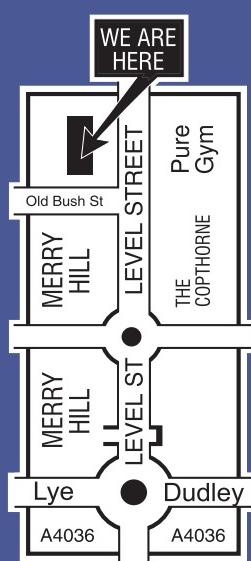
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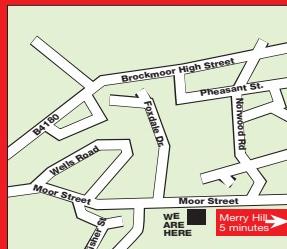
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# Drunken husband was literally in the doghouse

A HUSBAND was literally in the doghouse after alcohol abuse wrecked his nine-year marriage.

Police found Brett Saunders sleeping in a kennel in the back garden of the matrimonial home in Coseley.

He had breached a non-molestation order banning him from visiting the home in Davies Avenue, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. The 44-year-old, who had been ordered out of the property after assaulting his wife while drunk last September, had got back in touch with her at Easter but had sent her alarming texts, explained Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting.

Police were called to the house on May 25 and found him in the dog kennel. They removed Saunders and sent him on his way but he returned four hours later, prompting another call for help to the officers. He was then arrested, and discovered to be armed with a knife, which he later claimed to be carrying for his own protection, it was said.

The family court issued a non-molestation order banning him from visiting the address but he was seen outside the property by a neighbour on June 27. His wife was not at home and police found him passed out in the garden. He was charged with breaking the terms of the court order and was remanded in custody for a month.

This had done him 'a power of good' by weaning him off alcohol, said Mr Oliver Woolhouse, defending. The lawyer continued: 'He had a troubled youth but remained offence free for 23 years until last September when his drinking triggered an assault that led to the breakdown of his relationship.'

Saunders, of Old Hall Close, Amblecote, admitted possession of a lock knife, harassing his wife and breaking the terms of the order. He was given a nine month jail term suspended for two years with a 16-week curfew and was made subject of a restraining order for three years.

Judge Simon Ward said: 'You were making a misery of your wife's life.'

## Charity is tournament goal



From left, Beacon Centre CEO Arwyn Jones, JW Hunt Cup chairman Billy Owen, vice-president Walter Wakeman, competition sponsor Manmohan Singh Mohan and vice-president Les Pickerill at the Beacon Centre in Sedgley

A FOOTBALL tournament has raised £10,000 for a West Midlands charity. The JW Hunt Cup competition brought in money for sight-loss charity Beacon.

A cheque was given at the charity's Sedgley centre, in Wolverhampton Road East, by JW Hunt Cup president and life-time supporter Alex Hamil MBE.

Beacon Centre CEO Arwyn Jones said: 'The JW Hunt Cup has sup-

ported us over many decades. We rely on the generosity of the local community through initiatives like this. I would like to thank everyone on behalf of Beacon for their kind donations. As well as raising funds the cup is helping increase awareness and helps shine a light on our vital work.'

Since its inception more than 90 years ago, the tournament has raised £340,000 for the charity.



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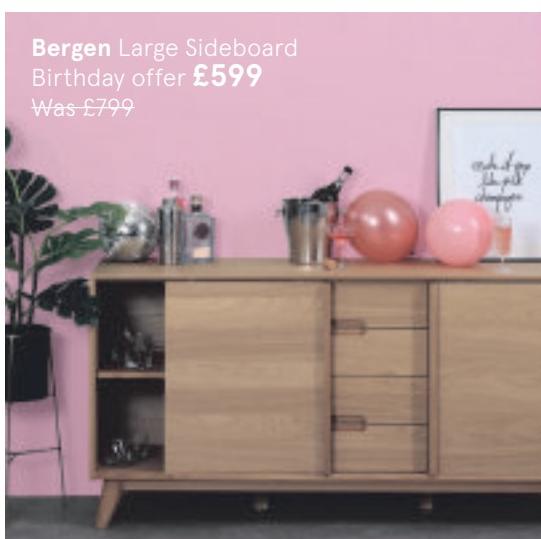
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# All traces of Goodyear are now almost gone forever

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The decision was a huge blow and more than 1,000 people signed a petition calling for it to be saved. It finally shut in August 2017 and has since been reduced to rubble, making way for homes.

Cyril Barrett, chairman of the Unite branch at Goodyear, said it was the 'end of an era'.

He said: "It really is very sad, it's heartbreaking, to see what happened. It has been the break-up of the biggest family in Wolverhampton and the Black Country – the biggest, kindest family has been destroyed."

## Shame

Former worker Wayne Devaney, from Wednesfield, said: "I drove down that way a couple of times and have seen the buildings taken down bit by bit," he said. "It's a real crying shame. My wife tells me not to cry but it was a big part of my life for 28 years.

"The whole operation was fantastic, and at the end of the day, I know Goodyear upped sticks but ultimately they gave me 28 great years."

People living near site have watched as the final brickwork is torn down for good. There were mixed reactions on social media after photographs of the final buildings being torn down were published.

Facebook user Gillian Nicholls said: "So many local people worked there. I think it's very sad"

All traces of the old factory should be gone before the end of the year.



One of the few remaining buildings on the old site



Demolition crews at the site



All traces of what remains will be gone by the year's end

## Legacy the perfect tonic for patients

CRITICALLY ill patients and those who have suffered a stroke will benefit from two generous donations to a hospital made by former Goodyear workers.

A Bioquell Isolation Pod has been installed at Russells Hall Hospital thanks to a £28,000 grant from the 5/344 Transport and General Work-

ers Union Benevolent Fund Trustees have also handed over £9,190 to pay for improvements to the stroke unit therapy room, including the purchase of a state-of-the-art reminiscence interactive therapy unit for patients to utilise.

Members of the benevolent fund, including chairman of the trustees

Cyril Barrett, Simon Terry and Arvinder Hothi, visited the hospital to see how their money would benefit patients in the future.

They met staff from the critical care unit along with the hospital's director of operations Karen Kelly, who said: "The pod is such an amazing addition to our critical care unit."

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## Rhyme time at museum with Dave the poet

THE Black Country Living Museum's poet in residence, Dave Reeves, will be helping people find their muse when he takes a poetry writing workshop next month.

The Tipton Road attraction will be the venue for the event on September 29. A museum spokesman said it would "draw on the built environment of the museum and delve into your own experiences".

The spokesman added: "In a warm and supportive atmosphere, and using a variety of writing forms, Dave will guide you through a day of concentrated but fun writing, and will help you to look at your work from new perspectives and, perhaps, unexpected angles. The workshop is suitable for both beginners and those with writing experience."

Dave has held many writing residencies around the Midlands and was Literature Development Officer for Sandwell Libraries. He is currently involved with the Back in 10 project at the museum, as one of five artists presenting performances in different locations across the site every Friday.

The next takes place tomorrow in Old Birmingham Road, set in the 1930s.

Back in 10 is part of BCLM's Summer Evenings programme: £5 entry after 4pm.

## Talk series opened by ex-Test skipper

FORMER England cricket captain Ted Dexter will open a programme of talks.

The 83-year-old batsman will be visiting the pavilion at Stourbridge Cricket Club on October 18 at 7.30pm.

The opening night is limited to Stourbridge and District Cricket Society members and their guests.

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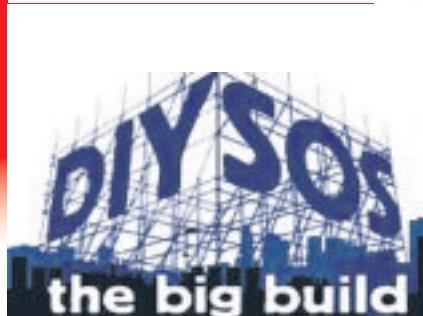
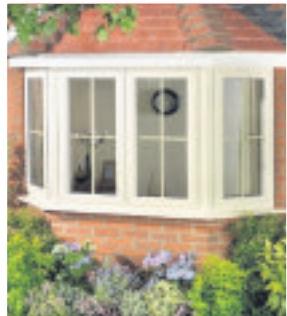
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# Hunting for treasure and helping the police

The life of a metal detectorist involves more than just digging up lost bottle tops as expert treasure finder David Dickinson reveals

**F**rom helping the police, to searching for long-lost church windows or treasure, metal detectorists do a lot more than digging up bottle caps.

One rare find David Dickinson came across recently near Wem was a silver Roman brooch dating back about 2,000 years, writes Jordan Reynolds.

The incomplete silver Polden Hill type brooch was declared treasure at an inquest – and now half of the value will go to Mr Dickinson and half to the owner of the land where it was discovered.

The 68-year-old from Wrexham has been to four inquests in his 40 years' metal detecting and all items were declared treasure.

"As soon as I found the brooch I knew it was something interesting," he said.

"We were in an organised group searching with permission of the landowner."

"It will now go to the Treasure Valuation Com-

mittee where they will decide the value of the treasure." Mr Dickinson is treasurer of the Mold Historical Search Society.

"We help the police if they have any problems," the former distribution manager at Habitat said.

"One time a helicopter crashed in Mid Wales and the people on board died and we were asked to go and search for the pilot and his wife's wedding rings for the family."

"Fortunately we were able to find them and the pilot's watch."

"More recently we've been involved with St Padarn's Church, Llanberis. During the civil war in the 1640s the windows were taken out for safety and had been lost and we were asked to try and find them around the church grounds. Unfortunately we didn't find them in this case."

Mr Dickinson said there was a bit of a craze of metal detecting in the 1970s and that is how he first got involved.

He said: "The machines have progressed a lot

since then so I kept on and there's been a bit of a resurgence recently. You can buy them from Maplins or places like that but generally they'd be a couple of thousand pounds."

"Most treasure finds come from Suffolk because this area wasn't as populated as it is now, so we don't find as much as others."

"We search land before developers build houses in Shropshire sometimes and report anything to the local finds liaison officer."

Mr Dickinson has found a number of silver and gold coins near Chester in the past which were also declared treasure.

"I found 42 silver coins and one gold coin in Huntington near Chester," he said.

"That was very exciting, it was one of the first inquests I went to."

## Bodkin

Mr Dickinson said the detectors can find metal if it is eight to 10 inches below the ground, or up to a foot for larger items.

Last year a medieval silver bodkin was found in a field in the county, one of only two of its kind found in the UK.

Chris Langston from Oswestry made the discovery while metal detecting on agricultural land and it has now been declared treasure by the British Museum.

The silver bodkin needle, also worn as a hair pin, is believed to date back to the 16th to 17th century.

Mr Langston's latest find has spurred him into launching a new business, specialising in metal detecting holidays in the area.

Another detectorist, David Franklin, dug up more than a dozen silver coins dating back to the time of Henry VIII last year.

The coins were found on land near to Ludlow.

The Mold Historical Search Society visits groups to do talks for free or to raise money for chosen charities.

Visit [moldhistoricalsearchsociety.co.uk](http://moldhistoricalsearchsociety.co.uk)

The fragments of the silver brooch found near Wem



# Demands for public inquiry over grant



The New Saints players make their way onto the pitch

**T**HE chief executive of Shropshire Council has rejected calls for a public inquiry into the circumstances of an £80,000 grant to a football club.

Councillor Alan Mosley, leader of Shropshire Council's Labour group, and his deputy, Councillor Harry Taylor, had written to Clive Wright and council leader Councillor Peter Nutting saying an independent investigation was now needed to clear the air about money given to The New Saints of Oswestry Town FC (TNS) in 2012.

Shropshire Council says the grant was given on condition that the money was paid back by the club in the form of grants to Oswestry Town Council, but only £10,000 was actually repaid.

Last week the full findings of the coun-



Alan Mosley

cil's own internal inquiry were revealed, which said it was not clear whether the failure to recover the money was 'by design or accident', and that at least EIGHT opportunities to claim the money back had been missed.

It also revealed that crucial computer files had been 'inadvertently wiped'.

The council's Labour group has now written to chief executive Mr Wright saying it is now time for an independent figure to probe the matter more thoroughly.

Group leader Councillor Mosley said: "We've called for an independent inquiry after listening to unprecedented and growing demands from local residents who want the truth on the so called 'legacy grant' to TNS."

"The public standing of Shropshire Council risks sinking further unless this whole affair, and associated issues are investigated independently. Even the internal audit report raises the question of whether the lack of efforts to reclaim the money was due to 'design or accident'. I want to know if it was by design or accident."

**R**eport by Mark Andrews

Councillor Mosley said he was also concerned that a council official who prepared an invoice asking the club to repay £32,000 in 2014 was told to "hold until next week before doing anything please."

But Mr Wright said that while some members of the council had made allegations of wrong-doing, none of them had so far produced any evidence to back up the claims.

"There is a call from certain political parties, supported by some elected members, for an inquiry into the TNS issues," he said.

"However, it is the view of council senior officers that there is nothing to be gained from this and it would not be in the public interest as the chronology of events regarding what happened are clear, the police have no evidence of any crime and our audit finds no wrongdoing."

Councillor Mosley said only an independent investigation, with public and transparent conclusions, could restore confidence in the council's ability to handle major financial transactions.

"The inquiry could be led by a retired judge, a barrister, or a senior police officer, somebody who would be truly independent," he said. "It needs a completely fresh pair of eyes, somebody who would be able to conduct a more rigorous investigation in terms of interviewing people, rather than just looking at the paper trail."

Councillor Taylor added: "Like me, many new councillors weren't in office when this affair unfolded and many more had little to no knowledge of it. Yet the repercussions of the ongoing speculation reflects badly on all councillors and council officers. Only an independent inquiry can settle this issue."

TNS chairman Mike Harris insists that because the payment was a grant and not a loan, the club was under no obligation to repay the money. But internal emails between the council and the club show that the council expected the money to be repaid.

Mr Wright released a lengthy statement which said: "A grant of £80,000 was made by Shropshire Council to The New Saints (TNS) Football Club and this was used to build a new stand, thereby bringing both economic and community benefits."

"As part of the conditions of the grant TNS were to make payments equal to the £80,000 of grant they received to local projects to be determined by the Oswestry Economic Board. £10,000 was paid out to fund local projects but then the Oswestry Economic Board became dormant. The remaining £70,000 was not paid out. The police have looked into this matter and they can find no evidence of criminal activity."

# School and centre link up for life-saving boost

A NEW defibrillator has been installed outside a Dudley school as part of an ongoing project started by intu Merry Hill to ensure local residents have access to potentially life-saving equipment.

Merry Hill Shopping Centre owners intu Merry Hill, through a combination of fundraising and donations, has generated more than £15,000 to allow the installation of 14 defibrillators.

The equipment has been fitted in local schools and community centres, with the most recent being at Holly Hall Academy, in Scotts Green Close.

In addition, 10 members of intu Merry Hill staff have volunteered to support the FastAid Black Country charity, by becoming official defibrillator instructors, supporting more than 1,000 people across the region how to use the equipment.

## Training

FastAid Black Country are a group of community first responders supported by West Midlands Ambulance Service who work to increase the number of defibrillators across the region as well as providing free training on how to use them.

Defibrillators are the only treatment for sudden cardiac arrest and immediate treatment can increase patient's survival by up to 70 per cent if used within the first three minutes. It costs the charity approximately £2,000 to install each one.

Naomi Campbell, Community Development Manager at intu Merry Hill, said: "The presence of a defibrillator could be the difference between life and death in an emergency situation,



Naomi Campbell and Shaun Stokes of intu, careers adviser at Holly Hall Zoe Turtonand principal and Andy Landers with the defibrillator

ation, which is why it's so important to ensure all members of the community have access to one. The partnership with FastAid Black Country began when we offered our centre as a base for their operations and equipment.

"Since then we've been able to donate both time and funds to the cause, supporting more than 1,000 people with their training and 14 additional defibrillators being installed across the region."

Paul Grove, FastAid Black Country chairman, said: "In partnership with West Midlands Ambulance Service, we aim to provide access to defibrillators to more than two million people across the Black Country and Birmingham, which is why support from a place like intu Merry Hill is vital in helping us carrying out our work."

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Reg Keirle celebrates playing for 50 years at The Trumpet in Bilston



Reg with Dave Holmes who played with Tommy Burton



The Trumpet in Bilston, where Reg has been performing for 50 years



Reg performing at The Trumpet – circa 1985

# Reg still hits the right notes after five decades

## MEMORY LANE

By Thomas Parkes

A JAZZ musician who inspired one of Slade's biggest hits has celebrated performing for 50 years at a Black Country pub.

Reginald Andrew Keirle, known as 'Reg' or 'Keirley', started playing piano at The Trumpet, in High Street, Bilston, in the summer of 1968.

The pianist was the inspiration behind one of Slade's biggest hits – Skweeze Me Pleeze Me – after Jim Lea and Don Powell saw him perform on a Sunday night, according to Powell's Look What I Dun autobiography.

Friends and family gathered around Mr Keirle to celebrate the 82-year-old's legacy at the pub.

Mr Keirle said: "It was a complete surprise to me. I thought it would be an ordinary Monday night but it was great."

"Usually, you only get half a dozen in and when I went in it was packed.

"Musicians, old friends of mine

were there – they've all become nice friends."

Reg

started performing at the pub after watching Wolverhampton artist Tommy Burton and Dave Holmes – who was the first drummer to play at The Trumpet.

Reg has played for free at the pub ever since a fateful Monday night.

He added: "Tommy Burton was playing there and I went down to hear him and then I took over when he left and in the early days I was doing everything – including painting the walls just to get it going.

"It was only three, four nights a week but when a landlord came he was determined to have jazz on every night of the week.

"It was good and I played there on Friday once a week and there's one week night – on Monday – and hardly anybody came along so I did it for

nothing and I've been doing it ever since."

The 82-year old said he still couldn't make 'sense' of music, but said he played 'by ear', adding: "We had a piano at home and as a kid I used to pick out the odd tune."

Reg said he preferred 'traditional jazz' which he could sing along to.

He said: "I like traditional jazz in the style and songs as well – I like singing swing numbers.

"I sing what I can play. If I can't play it I don't sing it. I just play by ear."

Mr Keirle's other job was as a commercial artist at The Express & Star.

Reg, who was born in Waterloo Road in Wolverhampton, now lives in Redditch with his wife Linda Clement Keirle and still performs at The Trumpet every Monday night.

He said: "Every Monday night I'm there at about 9.15am until 11.15pm.

"I like beer, that's my inspiration. I like the pub, the beer and I like playing the piano – that's good enough for me."



Reg as an art student in 1953, aged 18

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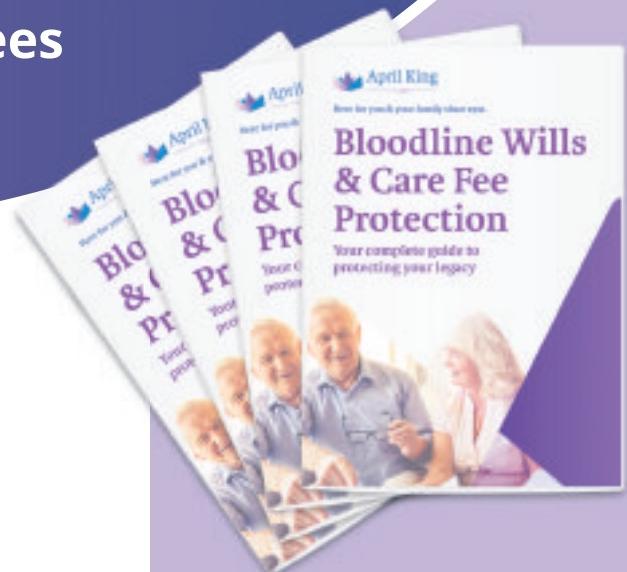
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# Listen once more with The Feeling

The Feeling will perform their celebrated million-selling album *Twelve Stops And Home* when they hit the road for their first tour in two years.

It's been 12 years since the acclaimed album's release and the band will headline Birmingham Town Hall on October 22.

*Twelve Stops And Home* – named after the Piccadilly Line journey from Leicester Square to frontman's Dan Gillespie Sells' home stop of Bounds Green – was originally released on June 5, 2006.

Despite being largely self-recorded in the garden shed of Ciaran and Kevin Jeremiants' parents' Sussex home, the album was a hit-the-ground-running masterpiece of fiercely infectious, life-affirming pop, pitched in the rainbow-coloured realm between Queen, Scissor Sisters, ELO and Supertramp.

Five of the album's songs became hit singles (*Sewn*, *Fill My Little World*, *Never Be Lonely*, *Rose and Love It When You Call*), helping the band to become the most-played act on British radio in 2006, and earning them the Ivor Novello Award for Songwriters of the Year.

Dan says: "I'm so excited to be playing with the band again. To be performing an album that has always meant so much to me is going to be quite an experience. When we recorded it we were a bunch of lads working in a shed to create the kind of music we wanted to because we were doing what musicians do."

Red Lemons singer Jim Merris and guitarist Ian Willetts



## Soul with Lemon sauce

ONE of the most popular Black Country bands of the 1980s, the Red Lemon Electric Blues Band, are getting back together for another of their popular reunion concerts in the Black Country.

They will be bringing along special guests and original fans TV celebrities Adrian Chiles and Suzi Perry.

The Black Country raised sports presenters both were also briefly members of the group during the early days. Suzi, whose father Tony managed the band, used to dance on stage

with the group in the 1980s and Adrian, from Hagley, was briefly the bass player.

The Red Lemon Electric Blues Band, who built up a huge local following some 30 years ago, will play their 'spiritual home' with a gig at Stourbridge Town hall on September 29.

They formed in 1985 and became a hit playing Rhythm and Blues at their own headline gigs and supporting stars like Chuck Berry and Robert Plant.

They gained fans outside the Midlands, even outside the UK, by performing at jazz and blues festivals. They played at the Royal Albert Hall as guests of Mencap and played on the bill with reggae star Desmond Dekker.

In 1991 the band was invited by Chuck Berry to be special guests on his UK tour. They also played on the same bill as Robert Plant and became regulars at Ronnie Scott's Club, when the famous London jazz venue opened a branch on Birmingham's Broad Street. Whitesnake's Bernie Marsden even guested with the band in Birmingham.

The soul and rhythm and blues group first got back together in 2015 to celebrate the 30th anniversary.

Tickets cost £24 (plus booking fee) via 0844 844 0444, online from [www.ticketmaster.co.uk](http://www.ticketmaster.co.uk) or from Wolverhampton Art Gallery.

## Festival date sees Busted make return

They've been conspicuous by their absence during a busy summer in which every weekend seems to bring a new festival.

Rather than appearing in fields and parks across the country, Busted have been holed up in a studio creating their fourth album.

Singer-guitarist-drummer Charlie Simpson couldn't be more excited. He still finds it remarkable that the chart-topping band, who formed in 2000, still have only three records to their name.

Busted enjoyed two million-selling records during their first incarnation; the self-titled debut, which was four times platinum, and the 2003 follow-up, *A Present for Everyone*, three-times platinum. There followed a 10-year hiatus following their decision to split in 2005 and since then there's been just 2016's well-received *Night Driver*.

Charlie says: "We've been in the studio for the past few months doing the fourth record. But we've got a headline show at Solihull Summer Fest on August 26 and we're looking forward to that. Considering the weather we've had, if it carries on, it should be a lovely afternoon. We really look forward to these shows."

Solihull Summer Fest gives Busted the chance to dust away the cobwebs. They'll line up with Razorlight, Lightning Seeds, The Beat, the Sugarcane Gang and more at Tudor Grange Park on August 26. The previous day features 10CC, Sister Sledge, Blue, Alesha Dixon and Roland Gift.



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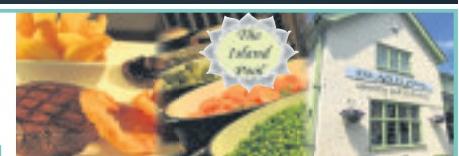
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# AT YOUR LEISURE

Jonn Penney with Rat on guitar



## Ned's duo added to bill as Shiiine moves venue

**NED'S** Atomic Dustbin bandmates Jonn Penney and Rat will perform at Shiiine On Festival in Birmingham.

The Stourbridge indie rockers will appear under the moniker Ned's Acoustic Dustbin at the one day event, which will now be hosted at the O2 Academy instead of the Genting Arena.

The duo join a line up of bands such as Orbital, Shed Seven, Embrace, Cast, and the Happy Mondays.

The event is also due to feature performances from Julian Cope, Reverend And The Makers, The Wedding Present, A Certain Ratio, Glasvegas, and both members of Carter USM as Jim Bob plays solo and Les Fruitbat with his new project Abdoujaparov.

Also featuring on the bill is A Certain Ratio, Bentley Rhythm Ace, The Stairs, The Membranes, Thousand Yard Stare, Ivory Wave and Psyence. There will be DJ sets from BBC 6 Music's Steve Lamacq, Star Shaped, and Ocean Colour Scene's

Steve Cradock, as well as two after-show parties featuring Todd Terry, Marshall Jefferson and Jon Dasilva. Shiiine On Festival takes place at Birmingham's O2 Academy at Horse Fair on September 8.

The doors will open at 2pm and the festival ends at 4am, with live music from 3 to 11pm, after-show parties start at 11pm.

For more information visit [www.shiineon.com/one-day-festival](http://www.shiineon.com/one-day-festival) and the organisers have apologised for any inconvenience caused by the change of venue.

## Comic Wayne joins Black Country Night Out crew

One of the longest running shows on the entertainment circuit, A Black Country Night Out, returns this autumn with the addition of a young comedian from Dudley.

Over the years it has starred some of the truly great local entertainers such as Aynuk & Ayli, Tommy Mundon, Dolly Allen and Giggetty.

### VETERAN

Most recently the show lost one of its most popular acts due to the death of veteran comedian Ian 'Sludge' Lees.

Ever the professional and despite illness 'Sludge' helped pick the comic to join the cast, one of the

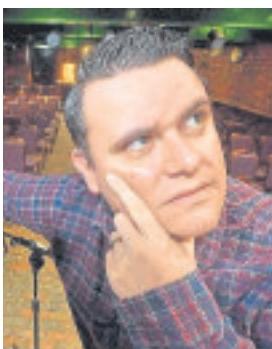
Black Country's most popular comedians and MCs, Wayne Beese.

The heritage of the Black Country Night Out carries on with a show full of talented entertainers.

Show regulars Dandy, husband and wife duo Alan and Glyn, are back as are the band behind the Black Country Anthem, The Empty Can.

Alongside Wayne, new regular faces will include comic and former rock drummer Ollie Spencer, plus Joe Thomas singing the songs of 1940s favourite George Formby.

Tour dates include Wolverhampton Grand Theatre on September 11, Bromsgrove's Artrix on October 3, Kidderminster Rose Theatre October 11, Cannock Prince of Wales October 17 and Walsall Forest Arts Centre on November 1.



Dudley's Wayne Beese

## There will be One Love for Marley man

The timeless reggae music of Bob Marley will be brought to life again when Mitchell Brunings brings Marley Reprised to Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre on September 15 and 16.

Mitchell, who took on the leading role in Birmingham Rep's production of the Marley musical One Love last year and performed Marley Reprised 2017, is returning to Brum for a second year.

It will give fans a unique opportunity for a full evening of reggae legend Bob Marley's greatest hits, with Mitchell's soulful voice so very close to those rich Marley tones.

Due to sell out shows last year, two dates have been added for the 2018 return.

Surinam-born Brunings was catapulted into the limelight in August 2013 with his version of Marley's Redemption Son when he participated in The Voice Of Holland TV show. Nearly winning the competition as runner-up, Mitchell's YouTube videos kept him in the limelight and brought him into contact with the Marley family.

## Toto recall as Rep seek a Wizard canine star

Birmingham Repertory Theatre are looking for a dog to play the role of Toto in their Christmas production of The Wizard of Oz.

Open auditions will be held at The Rep on Centenary Square on Saturday, August 25, from 10am to 5pm. The role Dorothy's canine companion is a pivotal one and The Rep is looking for a canine star to join the company. The show runs from November 24 to January 13.

The Rep is looking for two small dogs that have the enthusiasm and stamina to share the role over the seven-week run. No previous acting or stage experience is required, but good training and obedience will be. Directed by Liam Steel, this stage version of the legendary MGM musical features all the classic songs including Somewhere Over The Rainbow and If I Only Had A Brain.

If you think your dog has what it takes, email [dogauditions@birmingham-rep.co.uk](mailto:dogauditions@birmingham-rep.co.uk) and attaching a picture (max size 2mb). All owners and dogs must be available for auditions on August 25 and on September 8.

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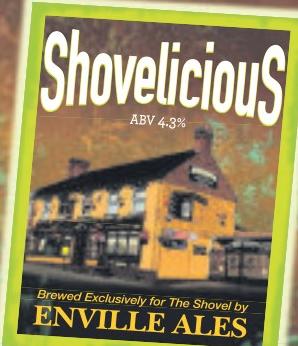
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### ADVERTISEMENT

## The Shovel Inn, Lye, launches resident 'House Ale' - Shovelicious

**Comment by Steve Hopkins, Owner of the Shovel in Lye:**

I am absolutely delighted to achieve the amazing target of serving 2,000 different real ales at the Shovel in Lye since 2006 and launching the pub's own House Ale, Shovelicious to mark the achievement.

Steve has long wanted his 'own-branded' ale since he began displaying the pump badge depicting each ale that had been served at his pub on the Shovel's legendary 'Real Ale' wall. (Real Ale Wall but Steve is from the Black Country)



Constantly evolving the Shovel with new facilities, building a new kitchen, delivering unique food offerings and looking after 27 draught beers including 12 cask brands; Steve was so busy he decided he would defer his House Ale project until he had served 2,000 different ales since his tenure at the Shovel began.

That amazing milestone has finally been reached after 12 years of scouring the cask ale market to bring his loyal customers new and exciting ales.

Steve decided to collaborate with Envile Brewery who have been regular suppliers (Envile Ale, Envile Ginger and seasonal brews) for many years. Envile set about crafting a state-of-the-art, session beer with a zesty, grapefruit aroma and citrusy hop notes without the bitter after taste many drinkers find spoils the experience. This 2001st real ale at the Shovel is finally ready and to mark the momentous achievement Steve is launching his new beer, Shovelicious, on Friday evening, August 17th where his customers will have their first chance to sample a tipple and enjoy the Shovel's infamous Street Food in a party-like atmosphere.

The party will continue all day on Saturday August 18th with more Street Food, a speciality Pimms and Prosecco Bar, plenty of Shovelicious and 26 other draught beers. On Saturday evening there will be live music from The Shaded Squares who will be performing their latest single aptly titled 'Happy Again'.

**About the new Beer:**

Name: Shovelicious

ABV: 4.3%

Colour: Pale Amber

Style: American Pale Ale

Aroma: Zesty, Grapefruit

Tasting Notes: Stunning modern style citrusy American session pale ale packed with Citra hops to give maximum aroma and flavour without a bitter aftertaste.



# AT YOUR LEISURE

24  
Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, August 16, 2018

## CHOICE



Rick Edwards

### Impossible Celebrities (BBC1, 7pm)

New series. Rick Edwards hosts a star-studded version of the quiz in which contestants compete for the chance to win £10,000 for charity, with a single 'impossible' answer knocking them out. Taking part are Angela Scanlon, Chizzy Akudolu, Debbie McGee, Dotty, Gregg Wallace, Iwan Thomas, Russell Kane, Spencer Matthews, Rachel Parris, Louise Pentland, Rory Reid, Tanni Grey-Thompson, Liz Carr, Imran Yusuf, Vicky Pattison, Ian H' Watkins, Craig Hill and Jorgie Porter.

## BBC1

- 6.00 Breakfast, 10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live**, **11.30 Nadiya's Family Favourites**. (R) **12.00 Football Focus**, **1.00 BBC News**; Weather, **1.15 Athletics**: Birmingham Grand Prix. Live coverage of the 12th round of the Diamond League season. **4.30 Final Score**, **5.15 Wedding Day Winners**.
- 6.15 Wallace & Gromit: A Grand Day Out**. The duo embark on their first adventure, taking a trip to the moon when their cheese puzzles run out. Bafta-winning animation, with the voice of Peter Sallis. (R) **6.40 BBC News**.
- 6.50 Regional Programme**.
- 7.00 Impossible Celebrities**. New series. Star-studded version of the quiz in which contestants compete for the chance to win £10,000, with a single 'impossible' answer knocking them out. Rick Edwards hosts.
- 7.50 Pointless Celebrities**. Alexander Armstrong quizzes eight writers – John O'Farrell, Emma Kennedy, Katherina, Kate Mosse, Benjamin Zephaniah, Roger McGough, Terry Deary and Bryony Gordon. (R) **8.40 Casualty**. The fall-out from the recent tragedy affects the whole department, and Iain confesses to Jan that he could have prevented it from happening but did not. His tormented conscience is pricked further by an encounter with an internet prankster who has had a similar experience of failing to avert a disaster. Dylan is reunited with Clara, who is struggling to control both her own alcoholism and that of a friend whom she has persuaded to go cold turkey, resulting in a potentially dangerous shock to her system.
- 9.30 Mrs Brown's Boys**. Agnes tries to persuade the health visitor Grandad is in need of respite care – so she can go on holiday – and receives ominous news from beyond the grave from her late husband. (R) **10.00 BBC News**; Weather; National Lottery Update.
- 10.20 Match of the Day**. Gary Lineker presents highlights from the Premier League.
- 11.45 The Rugby Codebreakers**. Carolyn Hitt presents a look at the Welsh rugby players during the 100-year amateur era.
- 12.45 Weather for the Week Ahead**.
- 12.50 BBC News**.

## BBC2

- 6.35 Marrying Mum and Dad**, **7.05 Officially Amazing Goes Bunkers**. (R) **7.35 The Deneingers**, **8.05 Deadly Dinosaurs with Steve Backshall**, **8.35 David Attenborough's Natural Curiosities**, **8.55 Nature's Miracle Babies**. (R) **10.00 Natural World**, **11.00 Miniature Britain**, **12.00 Nigel Slater: Eating Together**, **12.30 Great British Menu**, **1.00 Great British Menu**. (R) **1.30 Homes Under the Hammer**, **2.30 Garden Rescue**, **3.15 Escape to the Country**, **4.00 Hog It!** (R) **4.50 Inventing the Impossible: The Big Life Fix**, **5.50 Reinventing the Royals**. (R) **6.50 Proms Extra**. Katie Derham is joined by David Owen Norris and Lauren Zhang, who performs at the end of the show. Featuing a discussion of famous pieces by Grieg, Ravel and Debussy.
- 7.30 Dad's Army**. Pike borrows Mainwaring's new staff car to take his girlfriend to the cinema – but it breaks down, leaving the lovebirds stranded in the middle of nowhere. (R) **8.00 Blitz: The Bombs That Changed Britain**. The story of a bomb that fell on Jellicoe Street in Clydebank, West Dunbartonshire, a community of ship builders and factory workers who worked in difficult conditions. (R) **9.00 QI XL**. Sandi Toksvig invites Aisling Bea, Corey Taylor and Ross Noble and Alan Davies to answer questions associated with noisy and noisy in an extended edition of the comedy panel game. (R) **9.45 The Boy with the Topknot**. Born to traditional Punjabi parents and growing up in Wolverhampton, Sathnam Sanghera moves to London after graduating from Cambridge University and builds a career as a journalist. He tries to gather the courage to introduce his English girlfriend Laura to his mother and father and reveal he will not be entering an arranged marriage – but instead learns a painful family secret. Drama based on the memoirs of Sathnam Sanghera, starring Sacha Dhawan and Anupam Kher. (R) **11.15 Film: West Is West**. (2010) A traditionally minded Muslim father in 1970s Salford takes his reluctant youngest son to Pakistan so he can reconnect with his roots. Comedy sequel, with Om Puri. **12.50 Picnic at Hanging Rock**. (R) **1.40 This Is BBC Two**.

## ITV

- 6.00 CITV: Sooty**, **6.10 Make It Pop**. (R) **6.35 Dino Dana**, **6.50 Mission Employable**, **6.55 The Oddbods Show**, **7.05 NinjaGo: Possession**, **7.30 ToonMarty**, **7.40 ToonMarty News**, **8.30 Zoe Ball On Saturday**, **9.25 James Martin's Saturday Morning**, **9.45 Four in a Bed**, **10.25 Four in a Bed**, **11.20 Come Dine with Me**, (R) **12.55 Four in a Bed**, **1.25 Four in a Bed**, **2.00 Four in a Bed**, (R) **2.30 Four in a Bed**, **3.00 Four in a Bed**, (R) **3.30 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun**, **4.30 The People's Vet**, **5.35 Escape to the Chateau**, **D.I.Y.** (R) **6.30 Channel 4 News**.
- 7.00 A Year in the New Forest**. An unexpected heatwave leaves the forest facing its hottest early summer in decades, leading to an invasion of flies and other insects. While many animals, including ponies, cattle and deer fawns, struggle to cope with the intense heat, it proves a blessing for others – not least the forest's many species of rare butterflies. As the pace of life slows, the human residents are given a welcome opportunity to reflect on what makes the unique area so special and fragile. Last in the series.
- 8.00 Saving Planet Earth: Fixing a Hole**. As climate change begins to feel like an impossible challenge, this documentary tells the story of the first man-made threat to the planet's environment – the hole in the ozone layer – and how the world managed to fix it. The scientists and politicians at the heart of the story reveal how they spotted the giant hole in the stratosphere and, against all odds, persuaded Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher to take action.
- 9.00 Film: The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers**. (2002) Frodo and Sam continue their quest to destroy the all-powerful ring, bringing them face to face with the magical artefact's twisted former owner Gollum. Meanwhile, their allies prepare to make a desperate last stand against the vast armies of the corrupted wizard Saruman, who has declared war on a neighbouring kingdom. Part two of Peter Jackson's fantasy adventure trilogy, starring Elijah Wood, Sean Astin, Viggo Mortensen, Ian McKellen, Billy Boyd, Dominic Monaghan, Andy Serkis and Christopher Lee.
- 11.20 ITV News**; Weather.
- 11.35 Play to the Whistle**. Holly Willoughby hosts the sports-based comedy panel show. Last in the series. (R) **12.20 WOS Wrestling**. (R) **1.10 Jackpot247**, **3.00 Eternal Glory**. (R) **3.50 ITV Nightscreen**.
- 11.25 Film: Sin City: A Dame to Kill For**. (2014) Crime thriller sequel based on the comic-book series, starring Eva Green and Mickey Rourke. **1.20 The Last Leg**. (R) **2.15 The Crystal Maze**. (R) **3.10 Hollyoaks**. (R)

## CHANNEL 4

- 6.05 Trail Running: Tenerife Bluetrail**, **6.35 The King of Queens**. (R) **7.25 Everybody Loves Raymond**, **8.00 Fraser**, **8.50 Fraser**, **9.20 Fraser**, **9.55 The Big Bang Theory**, **10.50 The Simpsons**, **11.20 The Simpsons**, **11.55 Come Dine with Me**, (R) **12.55 Four in a Bed**, **1.25 Four in a Bed**, **2.00 Four in a Bed**, (R) **2.30 Four in a Bed**, **3.00 Four in a Bed**, (R) **3.30 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun**, **4.30 The People's Vet**, **5.35 Escape to the Chateau**, **D.I.Y.** (R) **6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!**. The owners try to recover £13,000 owed by a high-performance car dealer in Birmingham, and in Wolverhampton the agents chase nearly £2,000 owed to a car hire company. (R) **7.00 Cricket on 5**. England v India. Highlights from the opening day of the Third Test, which takes place at Trent Bridge, as the five-match series continues. With commentary by Michael Vaughan, Mark Nicholas, Alison Mitchell, Sourav Ganguly, Ebony Rainford-Brent and Charles Dagnall.
- 7.55 5 News Weekend**.
- 8.00 Blind Date**. Paul O'Grady is joined in the studio by a fellow dog lover, who has brought his four-legged friend with him to help choose between three mysterious women – all of whom have pets of their own on hand. Contestants from Guildford and Derby also go looking for love, and last week's couples return to reveal what their dates went. Last in the series.
- 9.00 Gino's Win Your Wish List**. Gino D'Acampo hosts the game show in which a family from Cardiff compete to win a holiday in Vietnam, as well as assorted other prizes, including a trip to a yoga retreat in Ibiza and a home makeover. To win they must perform some magic, and play rounds of Stacks and Bett Up.
- 10.00 Celebrity Big Brother**. Highlights of the housemates' first full day at the mercy of Big Brother, where it remains to be seen who is playing up for the benefit of the viewing public.
- 11.05 Best of Bad TV: Most Shocking Ever**. A romp through the most inappropriate, outrageous, ill-conceived and downright cringe-inducing moments that made it to air, featuring contributions from some of those involved. (R) **12.00 SuperCasino**, **3.10 Britain's Parking Hell**, **4.00 Britain by Bike** with Larry & George Lamb. (R) Close

## CHANNEL 5

- 6.00 Milkshake**, **10.00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles**, **10.35 Access**, **10.40 Police Interceptors**, **11.25 Police Interceptors**, **12.20 Police Interceptors**, **1.20 Police Interceptors**, **2.20 Nightmare Tenants**, **3.15 Bad Tenants**, **Rogue Landlords**, **4.15 Rich House, Poor House**, **5.15 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away!**.

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## DIGITAL

- 8.00 Four**, **7.00 Wild Ireland: The Edge of the World**, **8.00 Natural World Special**: Attenborough's Ark **9.00 Cardinal**: Blackley Season **10.25 Country Kings** at the BBC **11.25 Top of the Pops**: 1986 **11.55 There's Only One Madonna**, **12.50 Acoustic at the BBC** **1.50 Wild Ireland**: The Edge of the World **2.50 Natural World Special**: Attenborough's Ark **3.50 Close**

**ITV2**

**11.55 Catchphrase**, **12.40 You've Been Framed**, **Gold 1.45 Film**: The Flintstones (1994) **2.50 FYI Daily 2.55 Film**: The Flintstones (1994) **3.30 FYI Daily 3.55 Film**: Ella Enchanted (2004) **4.30 FYI Daily 4.35 Film**: Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope (1977) **6.25 FYI Daily 6.30 Film**: Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope (1977) **8.00 Film**: Robin Hood (2010) **9.00 FYI Daily 9.05 Film**: Robin Hood (2010) **10.45 Family Guy**, **11.45 American Dad!**

**12.40 The Cleveland Show**, **1.10 FYI Daily 2.15 Film**: What If (2013) **2.10 FYI Daily 2.15 Film**: What If (2013) **3.00 Teleshopping**

**ITV3**

**2.50 Film**: Carry on Cowboy (1966) **4.50 Agatha Christie's Poirot**, **7.00 Midsomer Murders**, **9.00 Endeavour**, **11.00 Vera**, **1.00 On the Buses**, **2.00 ITV3 Nightscreen**, **2.30 Teleshopping**

**ITV4**

**12.00 Pawn Stars**, **1.30 ITV Racing**: Live from Newbury. Coverage of the day's racing from Newbury, Ripon and Newmarket. **4.00 Film**: Kelly's Heroes (1970) **5.00 FYI Daily 5.05 Film**: Kelly's Heroes (1970) **7.00 World Series of Darts**: Brisbane **11.00 Better Late than Never**, **11.55 River Monsters**, **12.55 Minder**, **2.55 ITV4 Nightscreen**, **3.00 Teleshopping**

**E4**

**11.30 Film**: Dr Dolittle 2 (2001) **1.05 Brooklyn Nine-Nine**, **2.10 The Big Bang Theory**, **6.40 Film**: Iron Man 2 (2010) **9.00 Film**: The Inbetweeners 2 (2014)

**11.00 The Inbetweeners**, **12.05 Googlebox**, **2.15 Rude Tube**, **3.05 The Inbetweeners**, **4.00 Rude Tube**, **4.30 Rude (ish) Tube**, **4.50 How I Met Your Mother**

**Film4**

**11.00 Miracle on 34th Street** (1947) **1.00 Cheaper by the Dozen** (2003) **2.55 How to Train Your Dragon** (2010) **4.45 Fantastic Four** (2005) **6.50 Night at the Museum** (2006) **9.00 The Heat** (2013) **11.20 Kick-Ass** (2013) **1.25 Bram Stoker's Dracula** (1992) **4.00 Close**

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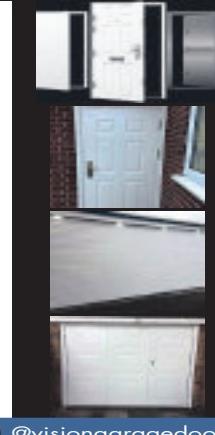


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- Discounted for OAPs  
- Exterior Painting

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**Home: 01384 872276**  
**Mobile: 07584 081228**

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Fascias • Soffits • Dry Verge  
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Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury B69 2DG

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Try us for a **FREE** no obligation quotation  
**FOR A CHEAP RUBBISH REMOVAL 6 DAYS**  
**Small jobs NOT A PROBLEM**  
**We load, No Skips, Free quotation**  
GARDEN, HOUSEHOLD, SHED, GARAGE, WHITE GOODS, HOUSE CLEARANCES FURNITURE.  
You can also bring your own waste to our fully licensed transfer station  
**CALL TODAY AND LETS TALK RUBBISH**

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All size skips and all areas covered  
Same day delivery faster than  
A phone call!!!  
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**BUY LOCAL, SELL LOCAL**

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# Classified Ads

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For your nearest branch call 01902 892635  
[wombournefuneralservices.co.uk](http://wombournefuneralservices.co.uk)

## Christadelphian

**THE TRUE TEACHING OF THE BIBLE** The holy spirit is not possessed today, August 19, at 6pm. The Community Centre, High Street, Kinver Edge. Or come to The Dawn (ref.KCE) 5 Station Road, Carlton, Notts. NG4 3AT for free information pack or ring 01384 886544 for recorded message.

**1**

Family

## Elderly & Disabled

**WORLD OF MOBILITY**  
Stourbridge's longest established Family Run Mobility Store  
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**WREKIN STAIRLIFTS** reconditioned lifts from £799. New available. 01952 405397/07897 273617



**01902 317878**

**2  
Leisure Time**

## Car Boot Sales

**ASHWOOD CAR BOOT** Sunday Barnsley Park, Farnsfield, on A449 DY6 0AA. 07710 64490 [www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk](http://www.ashwoodcarboot.co.uk)

## Caravans Wanted

**All Caravans Wanted**  
Any Age or Condition  
**\*CASH \*WAITING\***  
Immediate collection  
Call Bill on 07825 325 913

**LET US SELL YOUR CARAVAN/**  
Motorhome for you and get the best possible price. Severn Valley Leisure, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183

## Caravans/ Motorhomes

**A BEAUTIFUL PARK IN LUDLOW** 35x12 caravans from £10,000. Gym Par 3 golf, bowls, why go further? [www.bcpark.co.uk](http://www.bcpark.co.uk) 01584 234333.



## HOLIDAY STATIC CARAVAN

Riverside Caravan Park between Tewkesbury and Gloucester, no time limit on the caravan with country pub/ river seven, 2

£10,000

07717 090817

## Caravan Holiday home for sale

2010 swift Moselle £24,495 2 beds, bright open plan, well looked after, family shower room plus separate en-suite. Castle view 5★ Caravan Holiday Home Park - Ultimate Coastal Retreat. Minutes from beautiful sandy beaches & world famous golf Courses and Historic Harlech Castle.

Call Sue or Richard 01766 790328 [www.castleviewpark.co.uk](http://www.castleviewpark.co.uk)

**SIX BIRTH** 2 shower, DG, CH, WC, shower over bath, enclosed patio, last plot on small rural site, near to Newbourn. £14,950. All inclusive 07891 528061. (T)

## STATIC CARAVAN

Pemberton Elite 32 x 12ft, 6-berth, 2 bedrooms, DG, site fees paid until 1998, gas checked, site has own fishing pools, very good condition inside and out, 15 miles outside Welshpool. Dog friendly. Quiet site.

£8,500

07902 853567.

## STATIC CARAVAN FOR SALE

2 bedrooms, 35ft x 12ft, farm site, decking and parking, peace and quiet, fishing and walks, Chelmarsh Shropshire. Adults only.

£12,000

01746 861192.

## Fishing

SMALL COLLECTION of fishing tackle for sale. Preston rods. 07397 866835. Anytime after 5pm.

## holidays

## Caravan Sales

**A CHOICE OF CARAVANS FOR** sale from £1995 to £6995. Very short service, repairs, storage. Severn Valley Leisure, DY8 4HP. 01384 390183 [www.severnvalleyleisure.co.uk](http://www.severnvalleyleisure.co.uk)

## Self Catering Holidays

## BURNHAM-ON-SEA

Self Catering Holiday Apartments  
Disabled Facilities  
Pet Friendly

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[www.GoSomerset.co.uk](http://www.GoSomerset.co.uk)

## Travel Abroad

**READERS ARE REMINDED** to check with any Advertisers that their holiday costs are fully covered by a recognised bonding or insurance scheme.

## Yorkshire

**YORKSHIRE DALES** Meadow Holidays. Country Cottages / Suites in Wensleydale "Weeks from £209 per couple" Weekends just £99 per couple Families Welcome Walk in scenic countryside by waterfalls or visit historic market towns with friendly Inns Brochure 01969 214415 email: [info@meadowholidays.co.uk](mailto:info@meadowholidays.co.uk) [www.meadowholidays.com](http://www.meadowholidays.com)

## Sports & Leisure

**FreeAds**  
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY To sell items upto £250. Online at [bookandstar.co.uk](http://bookandstar.co.uk)

## what's on

## Book Fair

**BOOK FAIR** Kinver Community Centre, DY7 6ER, inc postcards. Sunday 19th August and 16th Sept. Next Antique Fair 2nd Sept. Est 1979. Waverley. Refreshments available. 0121 550 4381.

## Markets

**STOURBRIDGE CAR BOOT** At Stourbridge Rugby Club Open every Wednesday from 16th May

**07957 399964**

## 3 Home & Services

## Furniture

DARK OAK priory dining table with 6 chairs. 960. Sideboard leaded glass doors. £40. Welsh dresser. £20. £100 lot. 07581 238851.

MAS THREE SEATER cream leather settee, also armchair to match. immaculate condition. £300. 01384 292264.

## In Your Garden

**BUFF COLOURED** used garden slabs, 18 x 18, 100 in total, £100. o.n.o. 07713 878956 or 07511 029209.

## Items For Sale

**ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED** That the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

**CAR BOOTS** items to many to list, clothes, bric-a-brac, etc. £100 ono. Phone for more details 0721203.

**CORRUGATED GALVANISED** Sheets. New, £8 can deliver. Also rooflights and box profile. David Broxton on 07834 489558. HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is the responsibility of the advertiser to inform publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

## Items Wanted

## A BEST CASH PRICE

**FOR ALL RAILWAY COLLECTIONS** Any gauge or age Hornby/Bachmann/Brownmills/Roundhouse/Graham Farish/any live steam. Also Die Cast, Corgi, Dinky, Spot On. 01384 836219/07891 713547 [theretrainmaster67@hotmail.com](mailto:theretrainmaster67@hotmail.com)

**A BEST CASH PRICE PAID FOR DIE CAST CARS / LORRIES** Britains, Corgi, Dinky, Spot on, Tri-ang, Danbury Mint and Mamod Engines. Best prices paid. Any condition. Collections bought. Telephone 01922 327897 or 07976 691563.

**READERS ARE ADVISED** to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

**ROYAL ALBERT** Old country roses. Large collection wanted. Must be mint. 01746 714382.

**SPECTRUM GAMES** wanted plus any 48K or 128K 2 Spectrum computers wanted also any old Crash or Sinclair magazines. 01902 892918.

**WANTED NINTENDO SEGA OLD GAMES AND CONSOLES** Nintendo Sega, Atari, Commodore, etc. Old toys, Starwars, He-Man, Wrestlers, Transformers, etc. Comics, graphic novels, football shirts. Cash Paid. 07866 691968.

## Loans

**READERS ARE REMINDED** that they may require professional advice before entering into obligations.

## specialists at your service

## Accountants

**QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT** Accounts, Bookkeeping, Tax, CIS and Payroll  
**0121 5501094**  
Free consult no obligation [www.accountantsbirmingham.net](http://www.accountantsbirmingham.net)

## Aerials

## A AERIAL & SKY SPECIALIST

Digital Aerials Fitted Sky & CCTV Cameras  
**Free Quotes. 7 days**  
**07850 330251**

**AA DIGITAL** **AERIALS FITTED FROM £79.99**  
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**01543 439095 • 01922 716029**

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## TRUST CLASSIFIEDS!



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*Michael Portway Fencing*

For great business results call  
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## Gardening Services

## K.M. GARDEN CARE

We offer you a professional gardening service whether it is one-off jobs, weekly or monthly

**WE SPECIALISE IN:**  
General Maintenance, Hedge Cutting, Moving Lawns, Turfing, Strimming, Weeding, Jetwash Patio/Drives, Fence Panel Replacements, Garden Tidy Up, Window Cleaning

Please Call For More Details  
**07482216162**  
[Ekmgardencare@hotmail.com](mailto:Ekmgardencare@hotmail.com)

GARDENS TIDIED from £5 per garden. 25 years experience. Call 01902 713106 / 07813 184086.

## Gas Fitting

**READERS ARE ADVISED** To check that anyone carrying out any Gas work is Gas Safe Registered.

It is an offence under the Gas Safety (Installation and Use) Regulations 1998 to carry out gas work in the UK without being on the Gas Safe Register.

## House Clearances

## ABSOLUTELY ANYTHING CLEARED

FULL OR PART, GARAGES AND SHEDS RUBBISH REMOVED WASTE LICENCE 01384 486456 / 07711661135

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07827 172641 / 07710 360327 / 01902 534021

## Painters/ Decorators

## LOVE 2 WALLPAPER

Reliable & Friendly, Professional Female Painters & Decorators. Attention to detail, competitive prices. For the Perfect Finish with minimum hassle. Plastering & Coving Work Undertaken 01384 287577 or 07812 484194 [www.love-2-wallpaper.co.uk](http://www.love-2-wallpaper.co.uk)

## Electrical Services

**STEVE JONES ELECTRICAL** Rewires/sockets/fuse boards etc. All domestic and commercial work. 07786 858977/01902 846167.

## Fencing

**PORTWAY FENCING** SPECIAL OFFER 10 lots of quality fencing, concrete posts, gravel boards supplied & fitted. **£795** Heavy duty panels supplied & fitted. **0121 55250 / 07866 137 656** Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm Sat 8am - 12noon. **DELIVERY AVAILABLE** [www.portwayfencing.co.uk](http://www.portwayfencing.co.uk)

## Removals

## KINGSWINFORD REMOVALS AND HOUSE CLEARANCES

We move anything. Professional service, 45 years' experience, DFS approved and we take the stress away.

Please call:  
**07966 281957**

## Equestrian Corner

## BURROWS CROFT

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses, Donkeys or Ponies have the required Passport information, this is a legal requirement.

age 45 plus, No DSS. 01902 574500.

## PERTON

modern one bed ground floor flat, with parking. Suit professional. £100pw. 07931 933949

## Guns & Dogs

## Overseas Property

## NOTICE TO READERS

Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

**CALL DEAN NOW:** For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

**CALL IAN:** Man with a large van. No job too small, no distance too far. 07973 628534, 01902 891535.

## KT HOUSE REMOVALS

13 years experience

SINGLE ITEMS TO FULL LOADS LOCAL OR DISTANCE. FULLY INSURED.

Free Quotes - Call Ric on:

**07711 727119**

## Rubbish Removal

LETS TALK RUBBISH No skips needed. Load/remove any waste house clearance. 07969 628382

## Skip Hire

**BIG JOHN MOVES RUBBISH!** No Skips, we load, fast friendly service, 25 Lister Rd, Dudley DY2 8JR, Est 40 years, 01384 232359.

## t.v. / home entertainment

## Sales

AS NEW LG 4K Smart 50" TV, black, slimline, was £699 also matching LG 200 watt sound bar black. £360 pair omo. 07973 775560.

## Service

AERIAL AND TV SPECIALIST Any TV Repairs. Digital aerials, sky, CCTV cameras. Wall mounts and TV set ups. 07850 530251.

## TRUST CLASSIFIEDS!



## ClassifiedAds

## Business Opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering into any obligations.

## Business & Farming

## 6 Property

## Accommodation To Let

## NOTICE TO READERS

It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

## NOTICE TO READERS

Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments/contracts.

## 4 Pets & Animals

## Equestrian Corner

## BURROWS CROFT

single person, one bed flat to let, deposit required, age 45 plus, No DSS.

01902 574500.

## PERTON

modern one bed ground floor flat, with parking. Suit professional.

£100pw. 07931 933949.

## Guns & Dogs

## Overseas Property

## NOTICE TO READERS

## Properties Wanted



## We will buy your house fast!

Free Valuation? Yes! Any House? Yes!  
 Fast Sale? Yes! Any Location? Yes!  
 No Fees? Yes! Any Condition? Yes!

FREE, GUARANTEED, instant offer today!

Call 01562 277 067

or text "Cash" to 66777  
yeshomebuyers.com

## 7 Jobs

## Courses



We provide Training in:  
 • First Aid / Health & Safety • Safe Moving & Handling • Security (SIA)  
 Call 01299 879 015  
 Email enquiries@abktraining.co.uk www.abksecurity.co.uk

## Employment Wanted

EXPERIENCED BRICKLAYER  
 requires employment, all kinds of brickwork. 07534 76256.

## 8 Motoring

## Cars Over £1500

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AUDI A4 CABRIOLET  
 Well looked after example.  
 leather interior, ABS, long MoT,  
 New Battery.  
 First to see will buy  
 £3,500 o.n.o  
 01922 644717



BENTLEY CONTINENTAL  
 GT W12 540 HP  
 Nov 55, 105K miles. £20K spent on upgrades at Bentley with receipts on most mechanical and perishable parts. A Porsche eating amazing car to drive and with the upgrades its as good as it gets for its year, just a couple of minor hardly noticeable scratches.

Valuable private plate.  
 £24,000.  
 Call 07944 818083

## MUST BE SEEN

FIAT PUNTO GRANDE  
 1.2, 07 reg, full MoT,  
 very good condition.  
 Excellent drive.  
 £1095.  
 07486 468359  
 07986 873661

## MUST BE SEEN

FORD FUSION  
 2004.  
 10 months MoT.  
 63,000 miles verified.  
 Good runner.  
 £500.  
 0121 532 6428.

## BARGAIN

FORD KA  
 57 reg. MoT.  
 Low miles. Power Steering.  
 electric windows. Economical.  
 CD.  
 Drives. Looks great.  
 £895.  
 07365 76477.

NISSAN MICRA  
 1.2, 04 reg, MoT'd.  
 Good condition,  
 £975 o.n.o.  
 07864 842076.

## MUST BE SEEN

PEUGEOT 207 S  
 59 reg. 2009. Petrol. 5 door.  
 MOT October. Excellent  
 condition inside and out.  
 Bright red. New clutch, new  
 rear brakes.  
 Lots of mechanical work done.  
 CD. Radio and Aux.  
 Any trial welcome.  
 £1,295.  
 07770 075161.

FORD MONDEO ZETEC  
 BUSINESS TDCI ESTATE  
 6 speed, 2002 (12), 2 owners,  
 fsh (140k), new cam belt,  
 kit and full service, sat nav,  
 climate, MoT June 2019,  
 absolutely superb throughout.

£3,995  
 07970 705466

HONDA JAZZ 1.4 EX i-VTEC  
 5-dr, petrol engine, manual  
 transmission.  
 Registered in 2010, mileage  
 only 61260, 1 lady owner,  
 Panoramic sunroof. Air con,  
 FSH, MoT until Feb 2019.  
 Brand new front tyres. Brand  
 new battery.  
 £4,100 o.n.o.  
 07955 432285.

## LOW MILEAGE

JAGUAR X-TYPE  
 57 reg., (08), black metallic,  
 65,000 miles, MOT January  
 2019, one previous owner,  
 outstanding condition for year.  
 £2,750 o.n.o.  
 07841 516228.

TOYOTA RAV-4 XT-R  
 Silver, 2007, 78,000 miles  
 excellent condition parking  
 sensors sunroof full leather  
 lovely car inside and out  
 £4,000  
 01384 341641

## Cars Under £1500

## BARGAIN

FIAT PANDA  
 1.1, 57 plate, silver,  
 MoT'd,  
 cheap tax,  
 £1,250 o.n.o.

01384 251328. 07972 169554.

## Scrap Vehicles

## A1 SF RECOVERY

SCRAP CARS WANTED

£100 Minimum Guaranteed  
 paid for complete cars  
 Collection 7 days a week

07813 184611

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 • SCRAP CARS WANTED  
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## 10 Personals

## Personal

MALE 57  
 No ties, romantic, own flat.  
 W.L.T.M. Female 55-70  
 for Friendship / possible  
 relationship.  
 Wolverhampton or surrounding  
 areas.  
 Box Number P21302  
 Express and Star  
 Queen Street  
 Wolverhampton  
 WV11ES



YOUNG MAN 59 DIVORCED  
 Wishes to meet lady 50/62 for  
 days, nights in or out, must be  
 caring, honest with good sense  
 of humour.  
 Recent photo appreciated  
 (returned).  
 Box Number P21303  
 Express and Star,  
 Queen Street  
 Wolverhampton.  
 WV1 1ES.

## 9 Local Information

## Public Notices

JEAN STANDISH  
 (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trusts Act 1925 any persons having a claim arising out of the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 101 Worcester Lane Stourbridge West Midlands DY9 0SJ, who died on 26/02/2018, is required to send particulars of the claim to the undersigned on or before two months and one day from the date of this publication, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.  
 LLOYDS BANK PLC ESTATE  
 ADMINISTRATION SERVICE  
 PO Box 5005 Lancing BN99 8AZ

T53708

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
 TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC  
 CRAB LANE, BOBBINGTON

Notice is hereby given that Staffordshire County Council intend not less than seven days from the date of this notice to make an Order the effect of which is to temporarily prohibit traffic along Crab Lane, Bobbington. For more information regarding access arrangements, timings and diversion routes please visit <https://roadworks.org/?tm=106778605> The Order will come into operation on 4th September 2018 and the said works will commence on or near as practicable to that date. It is anticipated the works will be completed by 5th September 2018. The Order will remain in force for a period of 18 months or until the BT chamber works which it is proposed to carry out on or near the road have been completed, whichever is the earlier.

If an ad  
 is wrong,  
 the ASA  
 is here to  
 put it right.

## 4 GREAT REASONS TO SELL YOUR CAR IN THE EXPRESS &amp; STAR

- > 1. We reach over 680,000 potential buyers a week.
- > 2. At only £9.99 we give UNRIVALLED value for money.
- > 3. The price you see is the price you pay, NO HIDDEN COSTS.
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Call us on 01902 317878  
 or book online at [bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk](http://bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk)

**Classified Ads**



# Prices for Vauxhall's new Combo Life

By James Parker

**Versatile, practical and spacious,** Vauxhall's all-new Combo Life will arrive in showrooms next month priced from £20,530 on-the-road.

Aimed at active families and empty nesters, the Combo Life comes in two trims, Design and Energy, with Energy models available as either a five- or seven-seater.

Customers can also choose between two wheelbases: standard and XL. Its diverse powertrain portfolio includes petrol and diesels with either manual or automatic transmission.

Priced at £20,530 on-the-road, the entry-level Design 1.2-litre (110PS) Turbo Start/Stop 6-manual model features standard specification including air conditioning, DAB Radio with USB and Bluetooth audio streaming and 16-inch steel wheels with styled wheel covers.

Moving up the range, the Energy trim starts from £21,970 on-the-road for the five-seater 1.2-litre (110PS) Turbo Start/Stop 6-manual model.

A high level of standard specification includes eight-inch colour touchscreen infotainment system, 16-inch alloy wheels and front and rear parking sensors.

If you need space for more passengers, the Energy seven-seater starts from £22,530 on-the-road for the 1.2-litre (110PS) Turbo Start/Stop 6-manual model. A high level of standard specification includes 35/30/35 split-folding second-row seats with fold-flat facility, two removable third-row seats and two foldable tables with cup-holders.

Combo Life customers can choose between a variety of turbocharged, direct injection



It is equipped with two rear sliding doors



There are split-folding, fold flat second-row seats



Customers can also choose between two wheelbases: standard and XL

petrol and diesel engines, all of which combine driving pleasure with low CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 111g/km and fuel economy up to 67.3mpg.

All powertrains meet the stringent Euro 6d-TEMP emissions standard that comes into force for all new registrations from September 2019. The units will be combined with modern five- and six-speed manual transmission.

In addition, in a segment first, a low-friction eight-speed automatic with Quickshift technology can be ordered in combination with the top-of-the-range 1.5-litre (130PS) diesel.

Elsewhere, the new Combo Life is full of innovations that makes it a great choice for the whole family. It is equipped with two rear sliding doors and can be ordered as

a five- or seven-seater, making it perfect for those needing plenty of room for people and luggage, such as a small sports team and their equipment.

The latest addition to the Vauxhall range makes longer trips more comfortable and enjoyable for the whole family, thanks to three individual rear seats, all with ISOFIX child seat brackets, and the optional panoramic glass

roof. The Combo Life raises the bar for safety and comfort in this segment. It is fitted with technologies and driver assistance systems that are more commonly seen in the compact or SUV segments, such as Driver Drowsiness Alert, Rear View Camera with 180° bird's-eye view, Head-up display, and IntelliGrip, as well as improved comfort features such as heated seats and a heated steering wheel.

**Now in range.  
Available with 5 years 0% APR.**



**Dudley Motor Company**  
Dudley 01384 454100

**Stourbridge Motor House**  
Stourbridge 01384 447970

**T Wall Garages**  
Kingswinford 01384 288333

**Halesowen Motor House**  
Halesowen 0121 503 0001

Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km). Vauxhall Crossland, Grandland X, Mokka X and Corsa range: Urban: 30.7 (9.2) – 64.2 (4.4), Extra-urban: 46.3 (6.1) – 80.7 (3.5), Combined: 39.2 (7.2) – 70.6 (4.0). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 167 – 105g/km.\*

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# Vignale – luxury version of multi award-winning Fiesta

By Carmel Stewart

The Fiesta supermini has been the envy of many a manufacturer over the years and rightly so.

It has held on to its top spot in the annual small hatchback sales tussle and has won multiple awards, into the bargain.

In addition, it is powered by an unbeatable 1.0 litre EcoBoost engine which has won the International Engine of the Year award five times in a row. How can things get any better?

Step up the ultra-posh Vignale – not so much a trim level more an upmarket buying experience is the gist of Ford's marketing.

First introduced on the Ford Mondeo, swiftly followed by the S-Max, the Kuga and the Edge, the Vignale badging adds a new look to every model it touches, along with an almost overwhelming hi-tech, top spec list of additions and luxury touches.

Outside, the Fiesta Vignale is Frozen White in colour, has 17-inch alloys, a specially designed front grille, Vignale bumpers front and rear, Vignale badging, a rear diffuser and a panoramic sunroof.

Inside, there are extremely comfortable hexagonal-quilted, tuxedo-stitched heated leather seats, a three-spoke heated leather steering wheel, Vignale badged door sills and Vignale badged floor mats.



**Hi-tech additions and luxury touches**

Ford is pretty certain the seats will remain comfortable for the lifetime of the car thanks to its mechanical 'Robot Buttocks' which apparently sat on the seats 25,000 times to prove their durability.

Safety features include a rear-view camera with rear parking sensors.

Fork out an additional £200 and Ford will fit front parking sensors and a delicious piece of stress busting kit – automatic park assist which not only alerts the driver to a suitable parking space but also reverses the car into it.

In-car entertainment is well cover by the 10 speaker B&O Play system, the Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity, and the eight-inch touch screen with voice control.

Buyers have the choice of two engines – the excellent 1.0 litre EcoBoost petrol with 100ps, 125ps, 140ps, or the 1.5-litre 120ps diesel.

Best for economy will be the diesel at an average 65.7mpg.

The petrol unit will return between 57mpg and 60mpg depending on output and wheel size. Opting for the excellent automatic transmission will cause a dip in economy, taking it down to 49.6mpg.

On the road the Fiesta is still as feisty and fun as it ever was. This latest model, regardless of trim, has sharper steering, new suspension and revised torque vectoring control, making it even more composed and confident.

The Vignale effect includes a dedicated salesperson – sorry, relationship manager – a special Vignale area of the showroom and 24-hour support for buyers who will be fetched and carried from home or work when a service is due.

But all this fun and luxury comes at a price. The entry-level Fiesta Style trim will set you back £13,715. The least you can expect to pay for the Vignale is £20,365.

Opt for the five-door automatic and you are looking at £21,845.

For some, the comprehensive spec list and undeniable pampering will be well worth the extra. For the rest of us there is the standard model with the same great engines, flexible ride and smile inducing handling.



The Vignale badging adds a new look to every model it touches

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## MOTORING

# Lexus LC Limited Edition revealed – and it's bright!



The bodywork is finished in an eye-catching Naples Yellow paint colour

Japanese car manufacturers are renowned for a love of making special-edition machinery, and Lexus is the latest to introduce another to its line-up with this – the aptly named Lexus LC Limited Edition.

There's a yellow theme for this variant of the sports car, which was first introduced in 2017. The bodywork is finished in an eye-catching Naples Yellow paint colour, which continues to the cabin — where the black door panels feature yellow Alcantara inserts.

Yellow stitching features on the

white leather seats, instrument panel, steering wheel and centre too, while the headliner is furnished with Alcantara.

As for technology, Limited Edition buyers can expect a head-up display, 10-way power adjustment for the front seats and a 13-speaker Mark Levinson audio system for no extra cost.

Completing the package is a set of 21-inch alloy wheels, with the Lexus LC Limited Edition available with two powertrains.

The first is a 3.5-litre V6 hybrid powertrain with 472bhp and 648Nm

of torque, making the coupe capable of 0-60mph in 4.5 seconds before hitting a 155mph top speed.

There's also a naturally-aspirated 5.0-litre V8 variant, producing 470bhp and 540Nm of torque. The result is an identical 0-60mph time and top speed to the hybrid.

No official word yet on how many units of the Lexus LC Limited Edition will be coming to the UK, nor how much it will cost, but order books are set to open in November. Expect to hear more news following the car's public debut at the Paris Motor Show in October.

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National Over 70s winner Ian Garvey, right, with finalist Hans Bilson and, left, Mike Harris tournament organiser



Les Davies, Roy Bradley and Ian Garvey who represented their club in major championships



Another win for Ian Garvey who has a wealth of trophies

## City duo added to Gavin warm-up bill

A BIRMINGHAM boxing duo have been added to Frankie Gavin's European welterweight title warm-up next month.

Middleweight Daryl Pearce and super welterweight, Jordan Clayton are now also on the bill at Holiday Inn, Smallbrook Queensway.

Gavin, the former Commonwealth and British Champion takes on Kerman Lejarraga in the Spaniard's back yard of Bilbao on November 17. Gavin is determined to bring home the European title, and, the 32-year-old will take part in the warm-up bout in his home city as he steps up his campaign.

The five-fight dinner show will also feature Gavin's stablemate Brad 'Bosh' Thomas, and Central Area heavyweight champion, Kash Ali, as well as Walsall super welterweight Levi Ferguson.

The show, 'Bilbao Bound', takes place on Sunday, September 16. Tickets are £65 to include a two-course Sunday lunch or £35 standard unreserved.

Tickets can be purchased by calling 07900 741 617.

# 70 – but racketball ace Ian plans to carry on

**IAN GARVEY** continues to prove that age is no barrier to sporting success.

The 70-year-old racketball ace has just added another national title to his sizeable list of achievements – nearly 50 years after being advised not to play sport.

A serious knee injury curtailed Garvey's footballing days when he was in his mid-20s and, according to a doctor, should have meant an end to any strenuous physical activity.

But Garvey, from Stourbridge, had other ideas and decided to take to the squash courts for his sporting fix. A series of operations over the years on his knees, hip and shoulder, have failed to slow the Norton resident down with racketball taking over from squash as his number one sport.

And the sprightly septuagenarian shows no signs of calling it a day on the courts just yet, having been crowned champion in the over-70s category at the National Squash 57, the new term for racketball, Championships at the Edgbaston Priory Club.

### Prepare

The victory was all the more remarkable as Garvey had not participated in the nationals since 2008, and underwent major hip surgery in 2009 and a full shoulder reconstruction in 2012.

And Garvey, who has now won 19 national racketball titles, believes this is his greatest victory to date.

"I think this is my best achievement yet, having not figured in the nationals for a long time," he said.

"I had said I was going to call it a day because I have had operations on my hip and shoulder, and my knees are feeling the strain a bit. But I'm going to carry on playing. My wife, Carol, is a bit worried about me playing at my age but I still enjoy it and it keeps me fit and active."

Garvey enjoyed 3-0 victories over John Shlinger (Priory) and John Hopkins (Solihull) in the quarter and semi-finals respectively to earn a shootout for silverware with the number one seed, Leicester's Hans Bilson. The final was a very tight 50-minute encounter with Garvey battling through to win 3-1 (9-11, 12-10, 11-8, 11-5).

"I won the over-70s competition at my club, Stourbridge Lawn Tennis & Squash Club, earlier in the

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Nick Elwell

*"I smashed my knee up playing football, I damaged my cruciate ligament, and I was told not to play sport. I have had a few operations on my knees but they have held up over the years."*

year and I think that helped prepare me for the nationals," added Garvey.

He has been a member at the Stourbridge club for more than 40 years and played county squash before turning to racketball in the late eighties.

He plays a couple times a week in the afternoon leagues which are open age affairs and see him pitted against younger opponents.

"I played squash until I was about 35 and have been playing racketball since then," said the semi-retired asset finance broker.

"I play in the afternoon league at the club each week. I have managed to win that for the last four years so I am there to be shot at now, I suppose!"

"It's open age so I can be up against players who are a bit younger than me. But that doesn't bother me, I don't think about the age, and the experience I have helps."

The latest trophy will take pride of place in a huge collection. Since taking up the sport he has also claimed national glory twice in the over-40s category, four times at over-45, once at over-50, and a double success at over-55.

In addition to his single successes, he has also bagged one men's open doubles title and four over-45s doubles wins. And he has been a national finalist on another eight occasions in various singles and doubles events.

"I have won a few titles and I suppose it's not too bad considering I was advised not to play sport again in my mid-20s," he said.

"I smashed my knee up playing football, I damaged my cruciate ligament, and I was told not to play sport. But I started to play squash in my late 20s. I have had a few operations on my knees but they have held up over the years."

"I played in the Birmingham League when I lived in Halesowen and then joined Stourbridge when we moved to Norton in the late 70s."

Not surprisingly, Garvey was also a hit on the squash court where he helped Stourbridge win 11 Worcestershire League titles and five cups while he went through one season with a perfect record of 16 wins from 16 games.

He then turned his attentions to racketball and captained the club to nine West Midlands League Division One successes between 1993 and 2002, doubling five of those wins up with the cup for good measure. Amazingly he lost just one game in those 10 seasons.

And with Garvey showing no sign of easing up, he is delighted to see a boom in the sport he loves.

### Leagues

"There are quite a lot of people playing the sport now," he said. "The racket and ball are bigger than those you use in squash and it's probably a bit easier to play."

"At our club, we have winter and summer leagues and there are about 15 divisions in each, so the sport is becoming really popular."

Sport is very much a part of the Garvey family make-up.

"My dad, Geoff, played alongside the great Wolves player and manager Stan Cullis in various war-time matches in the 40s," said Garvey.

"I have got programmes from games he played at Craven Cottage and Stamford Bridge and he played with numerous professionals."

"My son Mark was a goalkeeper and he played for Stourbridge and Halesowen. And my grandson Ryan is also a goalkeeper and is just starting out with Cookley."

"Sport runs in the family and hopefully I will carry on playing for a few more years yet."

## Masters degree for former Wolves player

FORMER Wolves player Seyi Olofinjana has been awarded a Masters of Sport Directorship (MSD) by Manchester Metropolitan University Business School.

Former Nigeria international Olofinjana, a coach with Scott Sellars' Under 23s side at Molineux, played for Wolves for four years until 2008. He is one of only the second group of prominent sports and business people to be awarded the masters degree. These included former Warwickshire and England cricketer Ashley Giles and former Albion footballer Michael Apleton.

Olofinjana said: "Over a fascinating and challenging journey studying for the MSD we have covered a wide range of topics including leadership, management, and innovation as well as sports governance. A focus on managing staff and athletes looked in depth at achieving the highest level of performance and success. All of this will undoubtedly prove invaluable in my role coaching young people at Wolves."

## Young golfers tee up place in national final

TWO West Midland golfers have qualified for the national final of the American Golf Junior Championship.

The Chase Golf Club's Chloe Williamson and Envile Golf Club's Ewan Humphries will participate in the event October, covered on Sky Sports.

Williamson progressed after an outstanding performance in the qualifier at High Legh Park Golf Club, Cheshire, and, despite entering the competition to 'gain experience for future competitions', she finished in second place after a strong back nine holes.

Humphries, from Stourbridge, had an equally as impressive showing at Gaudet Luce Golf Club, Droitwich, winning the upper net category by scoring 31 points off a handicap of 36.

Both Williamson and Humphries will play in the UK & Ireland final at Gainsborough Golf Club, sponsored by Ping. John Clark, managing director of Ping Europe, said: "We're delighted to be continuing our partnership with American Golf and being part of this fantastic event yet again."

# Sport

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## Late Hughes effort breaks down visitors

Halesowen Town 1 Lowestoft Town 0  
YELTZ got off to a winning start on Saturday, thanks to a late Lee Hughes penalty against an unlucky Lowestoft side.

The youthful Trawler Boys were beaten with just two minutes remaining when James Roberts was brought down in the penalty area by goalkeeper Elvis Putnins and Hughes stroked home the resulting penalty. Home goalkeeper Dan Platt made a good fingertip save to deny substitute Kieron Higgs a deserved equaliser deep in stoppage time.

The visitors soon settled to play some neat football and an 18th minute long throw-in from Connor Deeks into the Yeltz penalty area caused danger. For Halesowen, Ahmed Ali headed into the arms of Putnins after 25 minutes.

The visitors went close on 32 minutes after Matt Brown played a long ball out of defence and play was allowed to continue from Asa Charlton's infringement on the edge of the penalty area, allowing Jacek Zielonka to cross for Shaun Bamman to head a good chance over the bar.

Immediately after the interval Bamman and Connor Ingram went close as the Trawler Boys enjoyed much the better of the second half. Zielonka's clever 68th minute corner was met by his captain Adam Smith on the edge of the area, only for Dan Platt to make a flying save. Platt then kept out a low shot from Deeks at the foot of his post and Smith hit over the bar in the 70th minute.

Lowestoft continued to be the better team as an 82nd minute cross flew right along the home goal-line.

## Stour and Hales are DLS winners as weather hits play

HALESOWEN edged home in the Birmingham League division one thanks to the Duckworth-Lewis System. A patchy Bromsgrove batting effort saw them restricted to 177-9 in 50 overs with Halesowen seamer Charlie Hartley taking 3-43. The game was halted by rain with Halesowen on 150-1 after 33 overs, which left them easy winners by 63 runs, which left them easy winners by 63 runs after Jamie Harris hit an unbeaten 75.

Himley struggled with the bat against Bridgnorth, and it required an unbeaten 41 from Arunveer Bhogal to take them to 157 all out in the 48th over. David Laird (3-24) was the most successful bowler for Bridgnorth, who eased themselves up the table, thanks to 47 from Adam Quiney and 43 from Worcestershire seamer Charlie Morris.

In the third division, an unbroken fifth wicket stand of 109 between Matt Bradley (88 not out) and Josh Banks (67 not out) took Stourbridge to 231-4 from 50 overs before reducing visitors Old Hill to 67-5 from 27 overs, when rain stopped play. With the players unable to resume, Stourbridge were winners by 69 runs, courtesy of DLS.

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Ian's still making a racket at age of 70

Page 35



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## Andy Poole's a head to win trophy



Andy Poole receives the trophy from Derek Brooks

AN excellent night's bowling on an uncompromising Wernley green saw Andy Poole from Cradley Sports lift the Dudley League Merit with a nail-biting final win against Nathan Dawes of Dudley Dell, 21-20.

The final was level throughout with both bowlers playing some exceptional ends. Dawes looked to have a clear advantage when 19-16 up and then 20-18 up, but Poole came through

with some great pressure bowls.

STAFFORDSHIRE VETERANS won the British County Bowls Championships on a tricky green in Northwich, Cheshire.

Staffs were joined by teams from Merseyside, Greater Manchester and Derbyshire as the final four played off in a round robin format to crown the champions. After the first two rounds,

each team had won one match, so all depended on the final round, which saw Staffs taking on Merseyside.

The lead switched throughout the last two games with each of the four sides capable of lifting the trophy at one point or another.

But Staffs ran out eventual winners as both Steve Davis and John Corbett provided early 21-9 wins to put Staffordshire in the driving seat.

## Fast Bacon first home in Hammer

BIRMINGHAM skipper Tom Bacon stormed to a 15-point maximum as he won Cradley's F.A.S.T Golden Hammer individual.

It was a keenly fought contest at Monmore Green which went down to the final set of heats.

Both Bacon and former Heathens' favourite Danny Ayres had made a series of impressive gates to win all four of their opening rides before meeting in Heat 18. And while Ayres made the best gate in that one, the Brummies man showed no fear to squeeze through a gap around the outside off bend number two to send the Perry Barr fans home happy.

Said Bacon: "I was really looking forward to the meeting in the build-up and I knew it wasn't going to be easy."

"There were a lot of fast guys out there and fortunately I made some really quick starts. It was tight with Danny in that last one but I managed to get through and I knew that was enough to get the meeting."

"I'm absolutely delighted to join such a brilliant list of names who've won this event in years gone by and this is an achievement I'm proud of."

"I feel like I've made plenty of progression and coming out on top in a line-up as strong as this shows that I guess."

2018 F.A.S.T Golden Hammer: Tom Bacon 15, Danny Ayres 14, Max Clegg 12 (on countback), Tom Perry 12, Drew Kemp 11, Ben Morley 10, Tom Brennan 9, Kyle Biddle 6, Luke Harris 6, Jason Edwards 6, Alfie Bowtell 5, Danny Phillips 5, Connor Coles 4, Rob Shattock 3, David Wallinger 2, Luke Ruddick 0, James Chappin (res) 0.

## Oar-some feat by rowing club pair

DUDLEY Rowing Club are creating history this weekend by entering their first ever Regatta.

Sophie Glazzard and Ben Nolan are entering the Junior Fifteen Single Sculls at Warwick Regatta, held on the River Avon with the backdrop of the castle.

The youngsters have been training at their base, Dudley Watersports Centre, and also on the River Severn at Bridgnorth, thanks to the help of Bridgnorth Rowing Club and secretary Sam Butler, who are helping by allowing them to use their boats and facilities, in order to give them experience rowing in fine boats on a good stretch of water.

## Valiant veterans stroll to finals



Nail-biting victory with Hartshill Strollers now set for the national finals

DUDLEY'S Hartshill Strollers have won through to the national finals of walking football's top trophy.

The club's Over 65s team, based at Summerville School in Kingswinford, beat Nottingham-based Bramcote WFC 3-2 in the competition's regional final.

The super-veterans will now go on to the Grand Finals on Sunday, September 30. The

venue has yet to be announced. The WFA National Cup is walking football's most prestigious tournament, equivalent to the FA Cup, and involves clubs from all over the country.

Hartshill's Over 60s team won the trophy in 2016. This year's 65plus regional clash was a nail-biting affair. Bob Haywood, Hartshill's manager, said: "It was a tough match. Our tenacity and team spirit won through."

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